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Original Papers.

A SHORT CHAPTER ON FUN.

THE sources of the funny, unlike the sources of the sublime, are not fixed. There are few which are common to all. For authority on this head, I quote *Æsop's Institutes*, title "Frog," which, when found, please make a note of.

Everybody has seen a kitten play with a mouse, the capture of which has perhaps been the first triumph of her juvenile skill. With what perfect complacency she regards the panting little victim, as it lies crouching before her, unharmed as yet, excepting by fear, yet seemingly conscious of its approaching fate. How still she sits, and feigns to look another way for the purpose of tempting her poor prisoner to make, perhaps, the fiftieth fruitless attempt at escape; and if, discouraged by its repeated failures, it refuses to move, how gently she touches it with her needle-like claws, and forces it to run. How nicely she calculates the exact distance to which she may safely intrust it, with a certainty of recovery, and then with what perfect precision does she again pounce upon it. That's fun—to the cat! It is often fun also to the human, and even to the humane spectator, for mice have but few friends. But to the little velvet-coated trembler, which sees in the playful kitten only a grisly bear, or a Hyrcanian tiger, and which looks up with horror at the whiskered jaws destined so soon to devour him—to him, I say, it is quite another affair. There is no possible point of view in which he can regard the case, in which it partakes in the least of a humorous character. Even the memory of that last delicious meal upon a stray crumb of cheese, in the very act of partaking which he was surprised by his bloodthirsty foe (what business was it of hers?), even that remembrance fails now to afford a gleam of satisfaction. His days of merriment are past. Puss becomes tired of play, and taking her muscular friend head foremost into her mouth, for a moment presents the anomaly of a cat with a tail at each end; but one preparatory craunch, in which a multitude of tiny bones are heard to crackle, and the catastrophe is ended. That fun is over.

As far as this homely illustration goes, it proves the proposition with which we set out.

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It might be proved in a great variety of ways. The unsuspecting fish, which, while foraging for its dinner, suddenly finds a barbed hook in its vitals, and the chirruping squirrel, which, in the very act of bounding merrily along the forest boughs with an additional nut for his winter store, is overtaken by the leaden messenger of death, may both be cited, as the lawyers say, as cases in point. So may the soaring eagle, who from some lofty summit of a forest, over which he has perhaps presided for half a century an undisputed monarch, tumbles, bullet-pierced, by the rifle of the fun-loving sportsman.

But there are other varieties of fun in which all the parties concerned are human beings, yet which can scarcely be considered as partaking of a full degree of "mutuality." The pleasure conferred by them is not, like that enjoyed by Messrs. Pike and Pluck on meeting Mrs. Wittiterly at the opera, "very mutual indeed."

Practical jokes of all kinds may be considered as coming within this class; such as terrifying a family at midnight by means of a kite-string attached to the handle of the knocker, and flooring an unsuspecting visitor by charging the door-knob with electricity. The last named species is supposed also to involve a slight infraction of the rules of politeness, and ought not to be countenanced in good society. Whether it is provided for in the "Hand-book of Etiquette," is not quite certain, but, if not, the insertion of the rule is recommended for the very next edition.

Dan Yawhaw is very fond of fun. He is always on the look out for it, and dolorous indeed must be the subject from which he could not extract a little amusement. His laughter is perfectly contagious. There is no resisting it. When the culminating point of a joke is at hand, Dan looks you full in the face, and keeps a close watch of the muscles about the corners of your mouth, in order to get a fair even start, and when the first course of cachinnatory peals is over, if a second similar scrutiny satisfies him that you are prepared to accompany him on another round, he will lead off accordingly. I have the good fortune to number Dan among my friends, and whenever I visit any public place of amusement, which is but seldom, for I am myself a grave and saturnine man, I take pains to secure his company, as something more important than a choice of seats. A front box at Placide's benefit is nothing compared to a seat with Dan. He scents a joke at such a distance, and comprehends its value so nicely, and pays for it, too, on the spot, in such clear, genuine, ringing coin! And then how he scorns a dull man.

"Just look," he said one evening at Burton's, when the house had just been brought down by a drollery of Johnston's. "Look," he said, wiping the perspiration from his forehead, and still holding on to one aching side, "look at Mr. Erudit Stolidity there, hunting for the point of that joke, see—see; and sure enough, there was a grave, gentlemanly-looking man, with knotted brows, looking wonderingly around the house, and seemingly in search of something to laugh at. "Now, that man,"

said Dan, "wouldn't take a joke, if you should fire it at him with a pistol; and if you should tell him so, he would reply that he didn't see how that could be done, and that he had never heard of such a thing as firing a joke out of a pistol."

Like most men of humor, Dan has his memory stored with some choice stories, which he deals out at times with great gusto. Part of these relate to his own experiences, and one which he related to me but yesterday amused me so much, either by its own merit or by his manner of telling it, that I cannot refrain from attempting to repeat it. But I wish you could have heard it told, gentle reader, for this drinking champagne out of a saucer isn't exactly the thing. You should have been present when the bottle was uncorked, or rather when its neck was broken, although it might have endangered the dislocation of your own.

"I have a bachelor cousin," said Dan, "who is very near-sighted; in addition to which misfortune, he is cross-eyed. He has been operated upon for strabismus, on the new mode, but it only resulted in changing the obliquity to a different direction, and he designs, he says, to have it set back, for he likes his old squint the best. As I said, however, he is very near-sighted; I don't think he ever saw his big toe, and I've seen him blot out his signature, with his nose, while writing it. But that is neither here nor there," said Dan. "Cousin Joe had a favorite spaniel, a handsome fellow, with long drooping ears and eyes that had a remarkably human expression. He was an affectionate, faithful animal, and his master loved him as he would have loved a child. Well—one morning last summer, while passing down Broadway I encountered Joe wearing an aspect unusually doleful, and on inquiry I learned that Dash was very sick and was going to die. "He acts very strangely," said Joe, "and I've shut him up in the kennel."

"Ah," said I, "hydrophobia, perhaps; won't he drink?"

"Like a fish," said Joe, "but he won't eat."

"Won't eat?"

"Not a morsel—not a crumb—I've tried him with everything; I even had a chicken broiled for him yesterday, and buttered, and he wouldn't touch it."

"Well, that is strange," said I. "How long has he been in that condition?"

"This is the fifth day," replied Joe, looking very serious, "and the poor fellow can hardly stand."

We were not far from Joe's house at this time, and I proposed to visit his patient, to which he gladly assented, and led the way, uttering many an encomium on poor, faithful Dash, and expressing his fears that we might not find him alive. "Well," continued Dan, "we went in, and we went to the kennel," and Dan's face grew redder and redder. "We went to the kennel, and there was the dog—ha! ha! ha!—there was the dog—ho! ho! ho!—with a-tche—tche—tche—with a-hi! hi! hi!—with a great wire muzzle on his j-jaws!" and then followed a final guffaw, long, loud, and sonorous.

"Poor Dash!" continued Dan, recovering

his breath—"how worse than Tantalus's had been thy lot. No sooner had I released his masticators than he fell to eating like a famished wolf; and cousin Joe said he remembered now directing his man to procure the muzzle—but the servant had been discharged on the next day for some offence, and the circumstance had quite escaped his memory."

Reviews.

COOPER'S NEW NOVEL.

The Sea Lions; or, the Lost Sealers: a Tale of the Antarctic Ocean. By J. Fenimore Cooper. 2 vols. 12mo. Stringer & Townsend.

AN attractive title, truly. Nor does this last of Cooper's novels disappoint the promise held forth on the title-page.

The story opens on the seacoast of Suffolk County, Long Island; and turns mainly upon the mysterious existence of certain wild islands within the Antarctic Circle, whose precise whereabouts is known but to a choice few, and whose latitude and longitude even the author declares he is not at liberty to make known. For this region, impelled by adverse, if not hostile motives, the two vessels, the Sea Lions, in due time sail, under circumstances full of romance.

After encountering a violent gale, described with a force peculiarly Cooper's, they at last reach the Antarctic seas, finding themselves walled in by "thrilling regions of thick-ribbed ice." Few descriptions of the lonely and the terrible, we imagine, can surpass the grandeur of many of the scenes here depicted. The reader is reminded of the appalling adventures of the United States Exploring Ship in the same part of the world as narrated by Wilkes, and of Scoresby's Greenland narrative. In these inhospitable regions the hardy crews of the Sea Lions winter—not snugly at anchor under the lee of a Dutch shore, nor baking and browning over the ovens by which the Muscovite warms himself—but jammed in, masoned up, bolted and barred, and almost hermetically sealed by the ice. To keep from freezing into crystal, they are fain to turn part of the vessels into fuel. All this, and much more of a like nature, is told in a style singularly plain, downright, and truthful.

At length, after many narrow escapes from icebergs, ice-isles, fields, and floes of ice, the mariners, at least most of them, make good their return to the North, where the action of the book is crowned by the nuptials of Roswell Gardiner, the hero, and Mary Pratt, the heroine. Roswell we admire for a noble fellow; and Mary we love for a fine example of womanly affection, earnestness, and constancy. Deacon Pratt, her respected father, is a hard-handed, hard-hearted, psalm-singing old man, with a very stretchy conscience; intent upon getting to heaven, and getting money by the same course of conduct, in defiance of the scriptural maxim to the contrary. There is a good deal of wisdom to be gathered from the story of the Deacon.

Then we have one Stimpson, an old Kennebunk boatsteerer, and Professor of Theology, who, wintering on an iceberg, discourses most unctuously upon various dogmas. This honest old worthy may possibly be recognised for an old acquaintance by the readers of Cooper's novels. But who would have dreamt of his turning up at the South Pole? One of the subordinate parts of the book is the timely conversion of Roswell, the hero, from a too latitudinarian view of Christianity to a more

orthodox, and hence a better belief. And as the reader will perceive, the moist, rosy hand of our Mary is the reward of his orthodoxy. Somewhat in the pleasant spirit of the Mahometan, this; who rewards all the believers with a houri.

Upon the whole, we warmly recommend the Sea Lions; and even those who more for fashion's sake than anything else, have of late joined in decrying our national novelist, will in this last work, perhaps, recognise one of his happiest.

THE ADIRONDACK.

The Adirondack; or, Life in the Woods. By J. T. Headley, author of "Washington and his Generals," &c. New York: Baker & Scribner. 1849.

MR. HEADLEY, it will be remembered, made his first hit with the public by his rapid, lively, graphic Letters from Italy; a book which offered little of polished taste to the amateur, and nothing of original research to the antiquarian, but which had on every page what, with a due union of interest in the subject, is sure to command the popular suffrage—movement. Movement, movement, movement is the motto of Mr. Headley, as action, action, action was that of Demosthenes. There must be progress. Hence Mr. H.'s choice of subjects, and his method of treating them. The rapid military movements of Napoleon, the brilliant onsets of his Marshals, the unflinching, onward career of Cromwell; a battle piece, a storm scene, are his delight. His temperament is nervous and excitable, and finds its health in action. He would prefer at any time to write of Luther before Melanchthon or Erasmus, but if he took hold of the latter he would galvanize them in the very slumbers of their books and philosophies—just as he delights in exhibiting Washington in his impulses, as a man of suppressed fire and temper. Mr. Headley is, in fine, a popular author with his go-ahead countrymen, who find in him (though without the reading and learned illustration) something of the qualities which carry to every house in the land the exciting, enthusiastic narratives of Macaulay. There may be recklessness, inaccuracy, carelessness of style, but there is excitement and progress. But a rapid style would be nothing were there not naturalness with it—and with Mr. Headley, whether the critics choose to account for it or not, there is a great deal of nature. It is the man himself who is put on paper. We could, for instance, give no better illustration of Mr. Headley's style than he has himself furnished in a passage of these travels in the Adirondack. It is a dark night in a storm on a mountain, and, as usual, the author is anxious to get on. We will see what his principles are on such occasions—like master, like book:—

A NIGHT JOURNEY.

"In the meantime, the sky became overcast, and night came down black and threatening. The darkness at length grew so impenetrable that we could not see the horses, nor even the wagon in which we rode. Up long hills, and down into deep gulfs, with the invisible branches sweeping our faces at almost every step, we travelled on, seeing nothing but utter blackness, and not knowing but the next moment we should stumble over a precipice, or be tumbled down the slope of a 'dugway.' My driver, in the meantime, got excessively nervous—he had never travelled the road before, and this feeling his way, or rather allowing his horses to feel it without venturing the least control over their movements, seemed to him not the safest mode of procedure, and so after muttering awhile to himself various rather forcible expressions, he

stopped and got out. Going to the heads of the horses he commenced leading them. I supposed at first that something was the matter with the harness, and said nothing; but soon finding myself moving on in the darkness, I called out to know what he was doing. 'I'm afraid,' he replied, 'to ride, it is so dark, and I'm going to lead my horses.' Just then, there came a bright flash of lightning, revealing the still and boundless forest on every side, and throwing into momentary, but bold relief, shivered trunks and blackened stumps, and last though not least important, the horses, with my driver at their head. An instantaneous and utter blackness followed—falling on everything like a mighty pall—and then came the sullen thunder, swelling gradually from the low growl into the deep vibrating peal that shook the hills. It was my turn to feel nervous now, and the idea of walking out a thunder-storm at midnight, in these mountains, was not to be entertained a moment. Unfortunately, I can bear the worst fate better than suspense; so calling out in a tone not to be mistaken, I said, 'Come, get in and drive on, and drive fast, too—if we break down, we will bivouack the rest of the night under the wagon, but as for going at this snail's pace, and a thunder-storm gathering over our heads, I will not permit it.' With a grunt at my rashness, he clambered in and started on. 'Come,' said I, 'whip up, neck or nothing, I can't stand this.' Getting into a smart trot, we passed rapidly along, expecting every moment to feel the shock that should stop us for the night, or find ourselves describing the arc of a circle, down some declivity, the bottom of which we could only speculate upon. Ever and anon came the sudden lightning, rending the gloom, succeeded by the rolling, rattling thunder-peal, that made the horses jump, not to mention our own pulsations. Brushed every few steps by an overhanging branch, as if struck by a mysterious hand, we kept resolutely on—the good horses picking their way like Alpine mules, and the road proving itself to be far better than our fears."

It is impossible for a company not to listen to a narrative of this kind when it is related by a resolute talker with a vigorous air of reality in tone and gesture. It suits the times when transferred to a book—though we have our own opinion that it may be carried too far, and that no style in the end tires more than the extravagant style. Test it by the writings of Macaulay, and by his most successful passages, as the description of the trial of Warren Hastings. The accessories of the guard in the streets, the soldiery, the marshalling of the Peers, &c., are all very fine, but they have been exhibited before on a thousand state occasions; and after the shock of the first surprise, at the rise of Macaulay's theatrical curtain, we see little in them. The aggrandizement which follows is very striking; "Siddons in the prime of her majestic beauty, looking with emotion on a scene surpassing all the imitations of the stage;" "Tacitus thundering;" "the greatest painter and the greatest scholar of the age side by side;" "the great, free, enlightened, and prosperous empire;" "voluptuous charms," &c., to the "peacock hangings of Mrs. Montague." Now all this is very fine, but it only astonishes once, like the ingenuity of the landscape gardener in Headlong Hall, with his "organ of unexpectedness." The trick is good for nothing a second time. Undoubtedly the trial of Hastings was a great occasion, but we feel on reflection that we have been cheated by allowing it to surpass "all the imitations of the stage,"

Presenting Thebes or Pelops line,

as well as the later grandeurs of Shakespeare and Schiller. We feel that we have been cheated. Now what is to be said of an histo-

rical style that appears of most consequence on a first perusal?

This, however, by the way. Mr. Headley's book is a collection of Letters written on the spot, in the course of two summer tours in the Northern and Western Counties of the State of New York, a region quite as little known to American readers as that of the range of the Rocky Mountains. Indeed many are familiar from the travels of Fremont and others, with the South Pass, even in the city of New York, who know nothing of the remarkable Indian Pass in their own State. The district is a wild one, hitherto comparatively unproductive, and lies out of the highway of travel. It possesses unquestionable charms to the lovers of the picturesque; but what is the picturesque compared to a steamboat route, a mill seat, or a wheat field? When the utilitarian and the beautiful are united, the latter is most highly esteemed. If you would have the charms of a landscape, don't go to the poets, but to the prospectus of an emigration company, the surveyor of unoccupied town lots, the owner of railroad stock, or the enthusiast in steamboat dividends.

Mr. Headley is a gallant explorer threading rivers, coasting lakes, ascending mountains, landing trout, and "fetching" a deer or a moose. Before, however, entering upon these incidents it is satisfactory to look at the map of the region. This is admirably supplied in an introductory geographical chapter from the pen of Professor Benedict, of Vermont University:

GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

"The northern section of New York, embracing the county of Hamilton, and the most of the counties of Essex, Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Herkimer, Lewis, Warren, and Fulton, has hitherto resisted the march of improvement, and still remains, with a few solitary exceptions, an un-subdued forest. Until recently, little has been known of its physical resources, and of its adaptability to the wants of man in his civilized state. Regarded as an unproductive waste, it has left the vague and transient impression on the mind that it answered well enough, the only purpose of its existence, to constitute a barrier between the Mohawk and St. Lawrence Rivers, and to prevent the waters of Lake Ontario from carrying desolation with them into the valley of Champlain. It seems until lately to have failed to awaken that interest in its behalf, to which it is justly entitled, in view of the recent developments of its mineral, and even of its agricultural capabilities.

"This section of country, which is frequently denominated the Plateau of Northern New York, is washed at its western base by the Black River and Lake Ontario—at its northwestern by the St. Lawrence—at its eastern by Lake Champlain—and at its southern by the Mohawk River. Settlements and civilization have advanced from five to twenty-five miles up the valleys and slopes of this elevated table, where they are met by the nearly uninterrupted wilderness of the interior. The general surface of this region, as indicated by the lakes and streams, and in many instances, especially in the western part, of the extensive valleys which they drain, is nearly a horizontal plane, with a medium elevation above tide of 1700 feet. This elevated surface is attained by a rapid ascent from its base, in a distance of some ten or twenty miles, except where the grade is occasionally reduced, and the distance proportionably increased by valleys and streams. The slope is the most rapid from the Black River and Lake Champlain, declining more gently to the Mohawk, and still more so towards the St. Lawrence and the low country of Canada.

"This table is divided transversely into two nearly equal portions by a broad valley of variable width, which meets the shores of Lake Champlain at Plattsburgh. The valley extends in a south-

westerly direction up the Saranac River to the beautiful cluster of lakes of that name—thence with an intervening ridge it passes up the Raquette River, though Long and Raquette Lakes; and thence in the same general direction, and with no opposing barrier, down the Moose River and its chain of picturesque lakes, and terminates in Oneida County, near Boonville. This valley is remarkable for its extent—being about 150 miles in length—for its nearly uniform direction, although it is formed by the basins of three different systems of waters—for the productiveness of its soil in the upper sections of its course—and especially for its almost unparalleled line of natural navigation.

"The western portion of the table, or rather that which is situated west of this valley, presents a varied and picturesque, though not a mountainous surface. The Adirondack Mountains are seen towards the east, with their bare and rocky summits, dim in the distance, projecting their spurs clothed with black forests to the shores of this central line of waters. Proceeding westwardly from this line, the physical aspect of the country undergoes a marked and immediate change. The mountains are reduced to *hills* of moderate elevations; and, instead of being covered with rugged and sterile peaks, their rounded summits display a luxuriant growth of valuable timber. They appear to be disposed without much conformity to any general system of arrangement. They are frequently solitary; and whenever they can aggregate in groups or clusters, their positions are determined by the local arrangements of the neighboring waters. Between the lakes, or rather ponds, of this uniform section, which are disseminated in singular precision over the whole plateau, the surface rises gently from the shores into swells of arable land, excepting the southern declivities, which are often abrupt and precipitous.

"The eastern part of the plateau, embracing a tract of country about 50 miles wide and 140 miles in length, and terminated by the Raquette Valley on the west, is decidedly Alpine in its physical aspect. Its apparently confused wilderness of mountains is found, on close examination, to be disposed in ranges nearly parallel to the valley above mentioned. These terminate in successive bold and rocky promontories on the western shore of Lake Champlain. The chains increase in elevation as they approach the interior, until they attain their greatest altitude and grandeur in the most western one of the series. This has a northern termination at Trembleau Point, and thrusts its southern extremity into the bed of the Mohawk at Little Falls. It consists of an extended aggregation of mountain masses, resting on bases that are elevated nearly 2000 feet above tide. Many of these throw their bare and pointed summits of rock to the perpendicular altitude of about a mile above the surface of the ocean. The vastness of their elevations, the almost endless variety of their forms, their confused and disorderly arrangement, and the deep forests that are interrupted only by the lakes at their bases and the rocks and snows of their summits, invest the eastern half of the table with unrivaled solitude and sublimity."

Mr. Headley, in company with the usual guides, and a select party of friends, himself first in search of health, afterwards in pursuit of the new found pleasure of the life, moves about in the midst of this grand region, visiting its most interesting localities, picking up legends, sporting incidents, and adventure as he goes along.

Here is a picture of a backwoods incident:

DRIVING TREES.

"But felling a single tree is a small matter compared to a process called here '*driving trees*.' Don't imagine a whole 'Birnam' forest on the move 'for Dunsinane,' like a flock of sheep going to market; but sit down with me here on the side-hill, and look at that opposite mountain slope. Just above that black fallow, or as they call it here '*foller*,' there, in that deep grove, five as good choppers as ever swung an axe, have made the

woods ring for the last three hours with their steady strokes, and yet not a tree has fallen. But, look! now one begins to bend—and hark, crack! crack! crash! crash! a whole forest seems falling, and a gap is made like the path of a whirlwind. Those choppers worked both down and up the hill, cutting each tree half in two, until they got twenty or more thus partially severed. They did not cut at random, but chose each tree with reference to another. At length a sufficient number being prepared, they felled one that was certain to strike a second that was half-severed, and this a third, and so on, till fifteen or twenty came at once with that tremendous crash to the ground. Here is labor-saving without machinery. The process is called '*driving trees*,' and it is driving them with a vengeance."

A night in the woods is a good specimen of the author's management of an incident, matched by several similar scenes in the course of the volume, which would bear quotation well; but we prefer a passage from a hunting chapter on

THE MOOSE.

"Game of all kinds swarm the forest; bears, wolves, panthers, deer, and moose. I was not aware that so many moose were to be found here: yet I do not believe there is an animal of the African desert with which our people are not more familiar than with it. In size, at least, he is worthy of attention, being much taller than the ox. You will sometimes find an old bull moose *eight feet high*. The body is about the size of a cow, while the legs are long and slender, giving to the huge bulk the appearance of being mounted on stilts. The horns are broad, flat, and branching, shooting in a horizontal curve from the head. I saw one pair from a moose that a cousin of Cheney killed, that were nearly *four feet* across from tip to tip, and the horn itself fifteen inches broad. The speed of these animals through the thick forests seems almost miraculous, when we consider their enormous bulk and branching horns. They seldom break into a gallop, but when roused by a dog, start off on a rapid pace, or half trot, with the nose erect, and the head working sideways to let their horns pass through the branches. They are rarely, if ever, taken by dogs, as they run on the start twenty miles without stopping, over mountains, through swamps, and across lakes and rivers. They are mostly killed early in the spring—being then unable to travel the woods, as the snow is often four or five feet deep, and covered with a thick sharp crust. At these times, and indeed in the early part of winter, they seek out some lonely spot near a spring or water-course, and there '*yard*,' as it is termed; i. e. they trample down the snow around them and browse, eating everything clean as far as they go. Sometimes you will find an old bull moose '*yarding*' alone, sometimes two or three together. When found in this state, they are easily killed, for they cannot run fast, as they sink nearly up to their backs in the snow at every jump.

"Endowed, like most animals, with an instinct that approaches marvellously near to reason, they have another mode of '*yarding*', which furnishes greater security than the one just described. You know that mountain chains are ordinarily covered with heavy timber, while the hills and swelling knolls at their bases are crowned with a younger growth, furnishing buds and tender sprouts in abundance. If you don't, the *moose* do; and so, during a thaw in January or early spring, when the snow is from three to five feet deep, a big fellow will begin to travel over and around one of these hills. He knows that 'after a thaw comes a freeze,' and hence, makes the best use of his time. He will not stop to eat, but keeps moving until the entire hill is *bi*-sected and *inter*-sected from crown to base with paths he himself has made. Therefore, when the weather changes, his field of operations is still left open. The crust freezes almost to the consistency of ice, and yet not sufficiently strong to bear his enormous bulk:

little, however, does he care for that; the hill is at his disposal, and he quietly loiters along the paths he has made, 'browsing' as he goes—expecting, most rationally, that before he has finished the hill, another thaw will come, when he will be able, without inconvenience, to change his location. Is not this adapting one's self to circumstances?"

With a fish story from Raquette Lake we must leave this dashing volume to stimulate the tourists of the coming summer to direct their steps to the Adirondack:—

AN EAGLE AND A SALMON.

"About five hundred yards from Beach's hut, stands a lofty pine tree, on which a grey eagle has built its nest annually during the nine years he has lived on the shores of the Raquette. The Indian who dwelt there before him, says that the same pair of birds made their nest on that tree for ten years previous—making in all, nineteen years they have occupied the same spot, and built on the same branch. It is possible, however, that the young may have taken the place of their parents. At all events, Beach believes them to be the same old dwellers, and hence regards them as squatters like himself, and entitled to equal privileges. From his cabin door he can see them in sunshine and storm—quietly perched on the tall pine, or wildly cradled as the mighty fabric bends and sways to the blast. He has become attached to them, and hence requests every one who visits him not to touch them. I verily believe he would like to shoot the man who should harm one of their feathers. They are his companions in that solitude—proud occupants of the same wild home, and hence bound together by a link it would be hard to define, and yet which is as strong as steel. If that pine tree should fall, and those eagles move away to some other lake, he would feel as if he had lost a friend, and the solitude become doubly lonely."

"Thus it is—you cannot by any education or experience drive all the poetry out of a man—it lingers there still, and blazes up unexpectedly—revealing the human heart with all the sympathies, attachments, and tenderness, that belong to it.

"He, however, one day came near losing his bold eagle. He was lying at anchor, fishing, when he saw his favorite bird high up in heaven, slowly sweeping round and round in a huge circle, evidently awaiting the approach of a fish to the surface. For an hour or more, he thus sailed with motionless wings above the water, when all at once he stopped and hovered a moment, with an excited gesture—then rapid as a flash of light, and with a rush of his broad pinions, like the passage of a sudden gust of wind, came to the still bosom of the lake. He had seen a huge salmon trout swimming near the surface—and plunging from his high watch-tower, drove his talons deep in his victim's back. So rapid and strong was his swoop that he buried himself out of sight when he struck, but the next moment he emerged into view, and flapping his wings, endeavored to rise with his prey. But this time he had miscalculated his strength; in vain he struggled nobly to lift the salmon from the water. The frightened and bleeding fish made a sudden dive, and took eagle and all out of sight, and was gone a quarter of a minute. Again they arose to the surface, and the strong bird spread his broad, dripping pinions, and gathering force with his rapid blows, raised the salmon half out of water. The weight, however, was too great for him, and he sank again to the surface, beating the water into foam about him. The salmon then made another dive, and they both went under, leaving only a few bubbles to tell where they had gone down. This time they were absent a full half minute, and Beach said he thought it was all over with his bird. He soon, however, reappeared, with his talons still buried in the flesh of his foe, and again made a desperate effort to rise. All this time the fish was shooting like an arrow through the lake, carrying his relentless foe on his back. He could not keep the

eagle down, nor the bird carry him up—and so now beneath, and now upon the surface, they struggled on, presenting one of the most singular yet exciting spectacles that can be imagined. It was fearful to witness the blows of the eagle as he lashed the lake with his wings into spray, and made the shores echo with the report. At last, the bird thinking, as they say west, that he had 'waked up the wrong passenger' gave it up; and loosening his clutch, soared heavily and slowly away to his lofty pine tree, where he sat for a long time sullen and sulky—the picture of disappointed ambition."

We should remark that the volume is unusually well printed, on stout, firm paper, and has eight steel engravings after the landscapes of Durand, Gignoux, Ingham, and Hill. The book is dedicated to the author's friend, H. J. Raymond.

Zoological Recreations. By W. J. Broderip, Esq., F.R.S., &c. From the enlarged second London edition. Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard. 1849.

Æsop and fabulists have made the animals discourse moral lessons, but the present is rather a presentation of the humorous side of the Animated Creation. These recreations are published under the approval of that great comparative anatomist, Prof. Owen, and with the hope that the cause of stern science may gain in the succeeding generation recruits from the perusal of these gay and pleasant pages. We hope that Cuviers and Owens by the score may spring up from the number of the youthful readers of the pranks of the ape and the elephant. The anecdotes are strung on a good-natured half scientific and antiquarian, and half sporting text, with copious extracts from the rarer and older portions of British poetry. We have a chapter on the singing birds of Europe; the cuckoo, so dear to spring and the poets, is not forgotten. Owls, parrots, and turkeys, are served up in order, and the question of when and how the latter birds were introduced to the palates of Europeans receives due attention. The instincts and gambols of dogs, cats, and monkeys, are recorded, and we get an introduction to the elephant himself. But the character of the book is best displayed by a few extracts.

A JOKE UPON AN ELEPHANT.

"A very intelligent elephant was shown some years since in a caravan of wild beasts, at a fair, in the West of England. One of those practical jokers, whose wit lies in pouring melted butter into a friend's pocket, or conveying a putrid oyster into his plate, had been doling out some gingerbread nuts of the first quality to the elephant, who received the instalments, small as they were, with satisfaction and gratitude, manifesting the latter by the spontaneous performance of some of his tricks between the somewhat protracted intervals of supply. Suddenly, his benefactor produced a large paper parcel, weighing some two or three pounds, and presented it *en masse*. The elephant took it as it was, and consigned the whole to his powerful crushing-mill. Hardly, however, had he swallowed the dose, before he gave a loud roar, and exhibited all the symptoms of suffering severely from internal heat, handing—yes, handing, for the trunk acted as dexterously as a hand—the bucket to his keeper, as if beseeching for water, which was given to him, and of which he continued to pour floods sufficient to drive a mill, down his capacious and burning throat.

" 'Ha' said the joker, addressing his victim, 'those nuts were a trifle hot, old fellow, I guess.'

" 'You had better be off,' exclaimed the keeper, 'unless you want the bucket at your head, and serve you right, too.'

"The dispenser of ginger and pepper took the hint; for there was an angry glance in the drinker's eye, while the distressed beast was pumping up his sixth bucketful; and in good time he took it, for he had scarcely cleared the entrance of the show, when the empty bucket was hurled after him by the elephant, with such force and correctness of aim, that if he had been a moment later, his joking would, in all probability, have been terminated with his life, on the spot.

"A year had passed away, and the wayfarers from the country villages trod over the withered leaves that had, when fresh, green, and vigorous, shielded their heads from the burning summer's sun, as they again bent their steps to the same annual autumnal fair, where the elephant had been before exhibited, and where he was again ready to receive company.

"Our joker was again among his visitors, and forgetful of his narrow escape from the bucket, which at the time another wit observed he had been near kicking, came as before, with one coat pocket filled with 'best nuts,' and the other with hot nuts. He gave the elephant two or three nuts from the best sample, and then drew forth and presented him with a hot one. No sooner had the elephant tasted it than he seized the coat tails of his tormentor, and with one whirling sweep with his trunk lifted him from the ground, till, the tails giving way, the man dropped half dead with fright, and with his coat reduced to a jacket. The elephant, meanwhile, quietly inserted the end of his trunk into the pocket containing the best nuts, and leisurely proceeded, keeping his foot on the coat tails, to discuss every nut of them. When he had finished the last, he trampled upon the pocket containing the hot nuts, till he had reduced them to a mash, and then, after having torn the tails to rags, threw the soiled fragments at the head of his facetious friend, amid the derision of the assembled crowd."

In the chapter on Owls, he describes a sporting adventure which befell a cockney sportsman of the Winkle school:—

COCKNEY SPORTING.

"From some turnip field hard by a plantation, or a tuft of rushes close to a copse on a moist hill-side, up springs a russet plumaged bird, and is in the cover in a moment. The eager shooter 'catches a glint on in,' as an old keeper used to say, through the trees: bang goes the gun. 'That's the first cock of the season!' exclaims he exultingly. Up comes John, who has been sent, ostensibly, to attend him, but, really, to take care of him.

" 'I'm sure he's down,' pointing to the cover—as many are apt to say when they shoot at a cock without being able to produce the body. 'Well—let's look, sir—where did a drop?'

" 'There, just by that holly.' In they go, retriever and all. 'There he lies,' cries the delighted shot, loading his gun triumphantly in measureless content, 'dead as Harry the Eighth. I knew he was down—there—just where I said he was, close by that mossy stump—can't you see?'

" 'Iss, sir, I see well enough, but I don't like the looks on in: his head's trifle too big, and a do lie too flat on his face.'

" 'Pick up the cock, I say,' rejoins our hero, somewhat nettled.

" 'I can't do that, sir,' says John, lifting a fine specimen of *otus palustris*, and holding it up to the blank-looking cockney, amid the suppressed laughter of those confounded fellows who attend to mark not only the game, but the number of spots that are missed on their abominable notched sticks.

" 'Never mind, sir,' adds the comforter, John, 'if taint a cock, a did kip company wi' em; and a's curous like, and since you haunt killed nothen else to day, I'd bag un if I was you: he'll look uncommon well in a glass case.'

After the elephants are disposed of, the book winds up with an account of the dragons and

gigantic creeping things that in the days of the week of the creation before Adam luxuriated in the mire, now named the oolite and weald formations. The natural history of these monsters, so anomalous and strange, these dragon forms crawling the earth, scouring the ancient seas, and flitting in the twilight and dusky air, sketched by the hand of science, seems to realize the dreams of heraldry and fable, and prove truth still stranger even than fiction.

THE DEAD SEA.

We extract from LIEUT. LYNCH's forthcoming Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition, the following account of the first view which the party had of the Dead Sea.

"A fresh northwest wind was blowing as we rounded the point. We endeavored to steer a little to the north of west, to make a true west course, and threw the patent log overboard to measure the distance; but the wind rose so rapidly that the boats could not keep head to wind, and we were obliged to haul the log in. The sea continued to rise with increasing wind, which gradually freshened to a gale, and presented an agitated surface of foaming brine; the spray, evaporating as it fell, left incrustations of salt upon our clothes, our hands, and faces; and while it conveyed a prickly sensation wherever it touched the skin, was, above all, exceedingly painful to the eyes. The boats, heavily laden, struggled sluggishly at first; but when the wind freshened in its fierceness, from the density of the water, it seemed as if their bows were encountering the sledge-hammers of the Titans, instead of the opposing waves of an angry sea.

"At 3.50, passed a piece of drift-wood and soon after saw three swallows and a gull. At 4.55, the wind blew so fiercely that the boats could make no headway; not even the Fanny Skinner, which was nearer to the weather shore, and we drifted rapidly to leeward: threw over some of the fresh water, to lighten the Fanny Mason, which labored very much, and I began to fear that both boats would founder.

"At 5.40, finding that we were losing every moment, and that, with the lapse of each succeeding one, the danger increased, kept away for the northern shore, in the hope of being yet able to reach it; our arms, our clothes and skins coated with a greasy salt; and our eyes, lips, and nostrils, smarting excessively. How different was the scene before the submerging of the plain, which was 'even as the garden of the Lord'!"

"At times it seemed as if the Dread Almighty frowned upon our efforts to navigate a sea, the creation of his wrath. There is a tradition among the Arabs that no one can venture upon this sea and live. Repeatedly the fates of Costigan and Molyneaux had been cited to deter us. The first one spent a few days, the last about twenty hours, and returned to the place from whence he had embarked, without landing upon its shores. One was found dying upon the shore; the other expired in November last, immediately after his return, of fever contracted upon its waters.

"But, although the sea had assumed a threatening aspect, and the fretted mountains, sharp and incinerated, loomed terrific on either side, and salt and ashes mingled with its sands, and fetid sulphurous springs trickled down its ravines, we did not despair: awe-struck, but not terrified; fearing the worst, yet hoping for the best, we prepared to spend a

dreary night upon the dreariest waste we had ever seen.

"At 5.58, the wind instantaneously abated, and with it the sea as rapidly fell; the water, from its ponderous quality, settling as soon as the agitating cause had ceased to act. Within twenty minutes from the time we bore away from a sea which threatened to engulf us, we were pulling away, at a rapid rate, over a placid sheet of water, that scarcely rippled beneath us; and a rain-cloud, which had enveloped the sterile mountains of the Arabian shore, lifted up, and left their rugged outlines basking in the light of the setting sun. At 6.10, a flock of gulls flew over, while we were passing a small island of mud, a pistol-shot distant from the northern shore, and half a mile west of the river's mouth. At 6.20 a light wind sprung up from S. E., and huge clouds drifted over, their western edges gorgeous with light, while the great masses were dark and threatening. The sun went down, leaving beautiful islands of rose-colored clouds over the coast of Judea; but above the yet more sterile mountains of Moab, all was gloomy and obscure.

"The northern shore is an extensive mud-flat, with a sandy plain beyond, and is the very type of desolation; branches and trunks of trees lay scattered in every direction; some charred and blackened as by fire; others white with an incrustation of salt. These were collected at high water mark, designating the line which the water had reached prior to our arrival. On the deep sands of this shore was laid the scene of the combat between the knight of the leopard and Ilderim the Saracen. The north-western shore is an unmixed bed of gravel, coming in a gradual slope from the mountain to the sea. The eastern coast is a rugged line of mountains, bare of all vegetation,—a continuation of the Hauran range, coming from the north, and extending south beyond the scope of vision, throwing out three marked and seemingly equidistant promontories from its south-eastern extremity.

"At 6.25, passed a gravelly point, with many large stones upon it. It is a peninsula, connected with the main by a low, narrow isthmus. When the latter is overflowed, the peninsula must present the appearance of an island, and is doubtless the one to which Stephens, Warburton, and Dr. Wilson allude.

"We were, for some time, apprehensive of missing the place of rendezvous; for the Sheikh of Huteim, never having been afloat before, and scarce recovered from his fright during the gale, was bewildered in his mind, and perfectly useless as a guide. The moon had not risen, and in the starlight, obscured by the shadow of the mountains, we pulled along the shore in some anxiety. At one moment we saw the gleam of a fire upon the beach, to the southward; and, firing a gun, made for it with all expedition. In a short time it disappeared; and, while resting on the oars, waiting for some signal to direct us, there were the flashes and reports of guns and sounds of voices upon the cliffs, followed by other flashes and reports far back upon the shore which we had passed. Divided between apprehensions of an attack upon our friends, and a stratagem for ourselves, we were uncertain where to land. Determined, however, to ascertain, we closed in with the shore, and pulled along the beach, sounding as we proceeded.

"A little before 8 P. M., we came up with our friends, who had stopped at Ain el Feshka, fountain of the stride.

"The shouts and signals we had heard had been from the scouts and caravan, which had been separated from each other, making mutual signs of recognition; they had likewise responded to ours, which, coming from two points some distance apart, for a time disconcerted us. It was a wild scene upon an unknown and desolate coast; the mysterious sea, the shadowy mountains, the human voices among the cliffs, the vivid flashes and the loud reports reverberating along the shore.

"Unable to land near the fountain, we were compelled to haul the boats up on the beach, about a mile below; and, placing some Arabs to guard them, took the men to the camp, pitched in a cane-brake, beside a brackish spring, where, from necessity, we made a frugal supper, and then, wet and weary, threw ourselves upon a bed of dust, beside a fetid marsh;—the dark, fretted mountains behind,—the sea, like a huge cauldron, before us,—its surface shrouded in a lead-colored mist."

[From the National Intelligencer.]

ORIGINAL NOTES BY FRANKLIN.

AMONG the more curious and interesting books in the Congressional Library, is one entitled "*Reflections, Moral and Political, on Great Britain and her Colonies*," published in London in 1770. The work in question was originally presented to Thomas Jefferson by Benjamin Franklin, and contains numerous marginal notes from the pen of the distinguished philosopher. As there is a positive value in every thought emanating from his mind, and as the notes alluded to have never been published, we have transcribed them for the gratification of our readers. To make them intelligible it will be necessary to quote the several paragraphs to which they allude; but further than this we shall not venture, only making it a point to quote each passage in regular succession. Beginning, then, with the preface, we proceed as follows:

Book. The good of the whole British Empire is what he (the author) aims at.

Franklin. This is the true political idea that every writer should have in view. Most of them think only of the good of a part of Britain.

Book. By considering the members of the House of Commons as *Senators* of the public, we may conceive them (says the author in his preface) to be in a certain degree the representatives and guardians of all *British commoners* wheresoever dispersed. It is to be hoped indeed that, some time or other, a better mode of election may be established to make the representation more equal.

Franklin. In what degree? Who are British commoners? Are the American colonists such? Why don't you set about it?

Book. We are not in general sensible of the benefits we derive from society; but by reflection we may safely conceive the happiness we enjoy beyond what is attainable by solitary savages.

Franklin. The difference is not so great as may be imagined. Happiness is more generally and equally diffused among savages than in our civilized societies. No European who has ever tasted savage life can afterwards bear to live in our societies. The care and labour of providing for artificial and fashionable wants, the sight of so many rich wallowing in superfluous plenty, whereby so many are kept poor, distressed by want; the insolence of office, the snares and plagues of law, the restraints of custom, all contribute to disgust them with what we call civil society.

Book. This Parliament and Ministry have

been vilified by all means possible, because they have supported the *pre-eminency* of Great Britain over her colonies, and *oblige* them to contribute to the public expense, which lies at present on Great Britain.

Franklin. A vague word (*pre-eminency*). Why should you oblige those that never were unwilling? Only return to the ancient method of requisition and you would have their contributions as usual.

Book. The colonists do not approve of this, and threaten us with the loss of trade if their *extravagant and unjust demands* of exemption from Parliamentary taxation are not complied with.

Franklin. This author decides before he examines.

Book. The colonists by their emissaries keep their apprehensions alive, and by applying the words of *ancient laws* to their own case, have made many believe that the Americans have been unjustly treated.

Franklin. What ancient laws? Probably Magna Charta, the Bill of Rights, Petition of Rights, &c.

Book. The colonists and traders cannot expect to carry their point whilst this Parliament subsists.

Franklin. The author supposes the colonists want a new Parliament in order to have the duties taken off. He is mistaken. They did petition; they were *not heard*, and they will petition no more. Keep up your duties if you please; they will not pay them because they will not use the commodities. And because they think you use them ill in laying such duties they will manufacture for themselves. They now find they gain, and save infinitely more by your continuing the duties than they should by your repealing them.

Book. The Irish are British subjects.

Franklin. It is not in Ireland. The Irish are Irish subjects. The superior power in Ireland is the King and *their* Parliament.

Book. British Empire.

Franklin. This is a vague expression. Writers like the above confound themselves and their readers with the idea that the British Empire is but *one State*; not considering or knowing that it consists of many States under one sovereign.

Book. According to their notion, Great Britain may provide and protect establishments of her subjects in foreign parts for the advantage of said subjects personally, but cannot make any foreign settlement for her own advantage.

Franklin. She may if she thinks fit. But she is not to apply to her own use unjustly foreign settlements made by others.

Book. Few can afford to give their children a liberal education.

Franklin. How ignorant this writer is. There are no less than eight universities in the northern colonies, viz. Cambridge, New England; Rhode Island, do.; New Haven, do.; New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Williamsburg (Va.) and Georgia.

Book. Among them (Americans) learning and politeness of manners must not be expected.

Franklin. As learned and polite, and more so, than in any part of Britain, for their numbers.

Book. The character of a gentleman is rarely to be met with in these provinces.

Franklin. No gentleman that knows the country would say this.

Book. It is the terror of the European strength which keeps the slaves from rising.

Franklin. The poor creatures know no more of such strength than of a strength in the moon.

Book. The inhabitants of Nova Scotia and Florida could hardly attend their parliament, which we will suppose assembled in some central place.

Franklin. Very easily. "Tis but a week's voyage from the extremities to the central colonies.

Book. Their division into provinces at present makes every colony a little State of itself.

Franklin. There you hit, and they will always (probably) continue so.

Book. It is true, a time in all likelihood will come when the colonies of North America shall exceed Great Britain in strength.

Franklin. Then don't make enemies of them if you are wise.

Book. The national debt.

Franklin. The writer seems to imagine the colonies concerned in the national debt. A notion quite new.

Book. If this behavior arises in consequence of their charters, it seems high time to amend or annul them.

Franklin. Meddle with them at your peril. No alteration can be made in these but by consent of both parties—the King and the Colonists. By violating them you break the link that holds those two parties together.

Book. It is the essential quality of a province to depend on that State which formed and supported it.

Franklin. The British State had no share in forming and supporting the colonies, except Georgia and Nova Scotia; and New England had a great share in the latter.

Book. There cannot be two equal legislatures in any State.

Franklin. But there may in *different* States. The corporation of Great Britain are within the realm, and therefore within the jurisdiction of Parliament. The colonies are without the realm; therefore not.

MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS.

A Treatise on Etherization in Childbirth; illustrated by Five Hundred and Eighty-One Cases. By Walter Channing, M.D. Boston: Ticknor & Co. 8vo., pp. 400.

Anæsthesia; or, The Employment of Chloroform and Ether in Surgery, Midwifery, &c. By J. Y. Simpson. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston. 8vo., pp. 248.

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences, for April. Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard.

Epidemic Cholera: its History, Causes, Pathology, and Treatment. By C. B. Coventry. Buffalo: Derby & Co. 12mo., pp. 119.

A FEW months since the subject of the use of Anæsthetic agents was the topic of general conversation, and the interest that all must feel in whatever tends to mitigate human suffering centred around this brilliant discovery of our age and our country. More recently, however, the public mind has been turned into different channels, and the task of assigning the true value of this class of remedies has passed from the counting-house and the drawing-room to those whose education and whose opportunities enable them to appreciate and to be the instruments of dispensing their benefits. Two volumes devoted exclusively to the subject of Anæsthesia have been recently issued from the press, viz. "A Treatise on Etherization in Childbirth, illustrated by five hundred and eighty-one cases, by Prof. Channing, of Boston;" and within a few weeks, an elaborate Treatise, by Prof. Simpson, of Edinburgh, on "Anæsthesia; or, the Employment of Chloroform and Ether in Surgery, Midwifery, &c.", has been published by Messrs. Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia. The interest with which this subject is invested, and more particularly the department of medicine of

which these volumes treat in extenso, render these productions particularly acceptable to the profession. For only by careful analysis and repeated observation, and that too by many laborers in the field, can we hope to arrive at just conclusions. Dr. Channing has not relied on his individual experience in the compilation of his treatise; but has sought from various practitioners information which he has embodied in his book. He advocates the use of the remedies in all circumstances of childbirth, and avers that no unpleasant results have followed their administration. And it is gratifying to observe in a paper published in the April number of the American Journal of Medical Sciences, that his confidence continues unabated. In this paper he states that in ten cases of Convulsions attending on Parturition, he had employed Etherization, and that six of the patients had done well—a statement that deserves attentive consideration in view of the great mortality that attends this frightful complication of labor; for Churchill (an able writer on Midwifery) informs us that more than one-fourth of these cases prove fatal. Instances in which Chloroform has been used in cases of convulsions, but not published, give an equally favorable view; and should subsequent experience confirm the results obtained in the as yet limited number of these cases, we must recognize this remedy as an inestimable boon. Notwithstanding that in Surgery there have been fatal accidents unequivocally attributable to Chloroform, there have been in Midwifery no *published* unfortunate issues of its administration. That there have been unpleasant and severe consequences even to its Obstetric use, does not admit of doubt; still the very large number in which only beneficial effects have followed its use, encourages the belief that in cautious and discriminating hands unloyed benefit may be hoped for. As Dr. Channing's book may be looked upon as embodying the information that we on this side the Atlantic have gained in this special department, so may Dr. Simpson's treatise be regarded as the best exposition of European experience. The subject is treated in a very able manner, and some portions of the book will afford interest to the general reader; among which the chapters in which the religious objections to the use of Anæsthesia are discussed, may be particularly mentioned.

If the interest of Anæsthesia for the public mind has passed, not so is it with Cholera. For us that sad devastator of our race possesses all that interest that the memory of the past, and the still more engrossing anticipation of the future, can throw around the dreaded evil. As the first evidence the traveller sees of the approaching tempest is in the whirling leaves that precede the main strength of the storm, so the coming pestilence is heralded by the profuse issues with which the English press has teemed, on the subject of cholera. As yet, our physicians have given little beyond newspaper abstracts and committee reports to the public; but Prof. Coventry, of Buffalo, has just published a more extended treatise, which will commend itself to professional and public attention. Dr. C.'s opportunities for the investigation of the subject have been ample, and he has done well to give the results of his experience to the world. He was appointed in 1832, by the Board of Health of Utica, to prepare an Address on this subject to the Medical Society; he visited Albany and New York, during the prevalence of the disease in those places, and though when commissioned, during a recent visit to Europe, to ascertain any new facts that might have presented in its later aspect, he was unable to accomplish his object, by the temporary cessation of the disease; yet the reader will find nothing has been omitted to make this a valuable resumé of our present knowledge. An appendix has been added, comprising Dr. Searle's Treatment of Cholera, London; a Report of a Committee of the Royal College of Physicians, Lond.; and a Report on Sanitary Measures in regard to Epidemic Cholera, by the Board of Consulting Physicians to the City of Boston.

Journal of Education for Upper Canada.
Edited by the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, D.D., Chief Superintendent of Schools. Toronto.

This journal has commenced its second volume, and changed its shape from octavo to quarto. It is devoted to the improvement of the common schools of the country, not only in the exposition of the principles of the system of common school instruction, the qualifications and duties of teachers, but the improvement of school architecture. For this latter purpose it is illustrated with plans, elevations, and sections of school-houses, such as have been recommended by committees, both in this country and in England. The number for March gives an elevation of one of a series of school houses, with teachers' residences attached, which has been recommended by the Privy Council Committee of Education, the plans and details of which are to be given in consecutive numbers.

The design is a quaint one, though not well adapted, we should think, for a rigorous climate, as the valleys of the side roofs form receptacles for snow and ice. The great Tudor windows in the wings, moreover, do not accord with the Elizabethan character of the central portion, with its arched porch.

The Journal is filled with valuable papers and statistics relating to its objects, and is, we hope, well sustained.

A Text-Book of Geometrical Drawing for the use of Mechanics and Schools. By Wm. Minifie, Architect and Teacher of Drawing in the Central High School. Baltimore : W. Minifie & Co. 1849.

This is an excellent work, well suited for its purpose, embracing a collection of the most useful problems in geometry, selected with a view to their constant recurrence in architecture, engineering, and machinery. Instructions for architectural drawing of plans, elevations, sections, and details ; for machinery drawing ; isometrical and linear perspective and sciography, or the science of shadows, are also given in a clear and condensed form, so as to be readily comprehended.

As a first book for geometrical drawing, and adapted for self-instruction, we commend it to those for whose use it has been prepared. Mr. Minifie has had several years' experience as a teacher in the various branches of which the Text-book treats, and the course here laid down has been followed in the Central High School at Baltimore with success.

E. H. BUTLER & Co., Philadelphia, have issued another edition of MACAULAY'S History of England, in two large octavo volumes, in which they state "the utmost care has been taken to give an accurate reprint of the edition of Messrs. Longman & Co., of London, printed under the supervision of Mr. Macaulay himself." It is a handsome library edition, on good paper, each volume of 448 pages. It is sold at the low retail price of one dollar per volume.

Messrs. HARPER have issued a new edition of their original two dollar edition of Macaulay's History, at the reduced price of 75 cts. retail, per volume.

Messrs. GOULD, KENDALL, & LINCOLN, Boston, have issued a new work from the pen of E. L. Mason, author of "Proverbs for the People," "Living Orators of America," "Orators of the American Revolution," entitled "Republican Christianity ; or True Liberty, as exhibited in the Life, Precepts, and early Disciples of the Great Redeemer." It is inscribed "To all who hate tyranny, revere humanity, believe in progress, and follow Christ."

The new volume of PUTNAM'S revised uniform edition of the Works of WASHINGTON IRVING is "Astoria, or Anecdotes of an Enterprise beyond the Rocky Mountains." This work, in the best style of the author's unsurpassed narrative, hardly needed for its revival the recent development of interest in the regions bordering on the Pacific—though, since the territory to which it refers has been definitively included within the boundaries of the United States, and has become a further source of interest, from the increasing emigration from

the Atlantic, it must possess new importance. It will always remain a most entertaining work, since it possesses the twofold attractiveness of adventure by sea and land, and has the unity of interest which attaches to the conception, progress, and final termination of a great enterprise. The author, in the incidents of travel and Indian details, has, it will be remembered, not confined himself strictly to the journals of the parties to the expedition, but has interwoven much collateral picturesque matter from the writings of Lewis & Clarke, Bradbury, the amusing Ross Cox, and others. The volume is accompanied by an excellent map, of the present year, of the Oregon Territory.

MESSRS. LINDSAY & BLAKISTON, Philadelphia, are the publishers of an elegant pocket edition of JOHNSON'S Dictionary, which though in little space contains additional technical terms, a concise classical mythology, a list of men of learning and genius, phrases from various languages, and a table of distinguished deceased Americans.

MESSRS. STRINGER & TOWNSEND have now ready "1812 : or Napoleon's Invasion of Russia. An Historical Romance," by LOUIS RELLSTAB.

MESSRS. HARPER publish a neat edition in double columns of LAMARTINE'S, "Memoirs of My Youth," from an English translation.

M. W. DODD has just issued several new theological publications. "Is Christianity from God ? or, A Manual of Bible Evidence for the People." By the REV. JOHN CUMMING, D.D., Minister of a Scottish National Church in London. This work, which is of an unpretending character for popular reading, bears the recommendation of the Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen for its "skillful and happy arrangement, brevity, variety, and force of argument." Also, by the same publishers, the 2d edition of "An Earnest Ministry the Want of the Times," by JOHN ANGELL JAMES, with an introduction by the REV. JOS. CONDIT, D.D., of Newark, N. J. "Sprinkling, the only mode of Baptism made known in the Scriptures : and the Scripture Warrant for Infant Baptism;" by ABSALOM PETERS, D.D., and "Fruits of the Mayflower ; or Conversations respecting the Pilgrim Fathers," a juvenile work in which an understanding of the history of the period is facilitated to the youthful mind by the form of question and answer.

CARTER & BROTHERS have published the Fourth Thousand enlarged of "The Israel of God," by STEPHEN H. TYNG, D.D., uniform with the author's "Christ is All," in one well printed octavo with a portrait. The religious views and the pulpit style of Dr. Tyng are well known. This has proved an acceptable volume to his friends and the public, as the several editions bear witness. It is a collection of discourses, to which several additions are now made, in which the reader will find the author's energetic and peculiar eloquence fully represented.

GEORGE VIRTUE, 26 John street, has issued Parts 75 and 76 of Fletcher's *Devotional Family Bible*. The engravings are after Sir Joshua Reynolds, and a view of the Pool of Hezekiah, Jerusalem, by Bartlett.

THE ASTOR LIBRARY.—No. VI. THE FOUNDER'S BEQUEST—ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Messrs. Editors :

You have kindly allowed a place in your columns for a short historical sketch of the origin and progress of the Astor Library, and believing it would be desirable to the public to be informed of the precise legal foundation on which this institution rests, I must ask you first to publish the codicil to Mr. Astor's will, by which it was founded and endowed, and the act of the Assembly of the State of New York establishing its corporate character and rights, of which the following are official copies.

Yours, J. G. C.

THIRD CODICIL TO THE WILL OF JOHN JACOB

ASTOR.

August 22, 1839.

I, JOHN JACOB ASTOR, do make this additional

codicil to my last will, bearing date the fourth day of July, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-six.

Desiring to render a public benefit to the city of New York, and to contribute to the advancement of useful knowledge and the general good of society, I do, by this codicil, appropriate four hundred thousand dollars out of my residuary estate to the establishment of a *Public Library*, in the city of New York.

For this purpose, I give to my executors four hundred thousand dollars, to be taken from my personal estate, or raised by a sale of parts of my real estate, to be made by my executors, with the assent of my son, William B. Astor, upon condition, and to the intent, that the said amount be settled, applied, and disposed of as follows, namely :

First. In the erecting of a suitable building for a Public Library.

Second. In furnishing and supplying the same from time to time with books, maps, charts, models, drawings, paintings, engravings, casts, statues, furniture, and other things appertaining to a library for general use, upon the most ample scale and liberal character.

Third. In maintaining and upholding the buildings and other property, and in defraying the necessary expenses of taking care of the property, and of the accommodation of persons consulting the library.

The said sum shall be payable one-third in the year after my decease, one-third in the year following, and the residue in equal sums, in the fourth and fifth years after my decease.

The said library is to be accessible, at all reasonable hours and times, for general use, free of expense to persons resorting thereto, subject only to such control and regulations as the trustees may from time to time exercise and establish for general convenience.

The affairs of the institution shall be conducted and directed by eleven trustees, to be from time to time selected from the different liberal professions and employments in life, and the classes of educated men. The Mayor of the city of New York, during his continuance in office, and the Chancellor of the state of New York, during his continuance in office, shall always be trustees. The vacancies in the number of trustees occurring by death, resignation, incapacity, or removal from the State, shall be filled by persons appointed by the remaining trustees ; the acts of a majority of the trustees, at a meeting reasonably notified, shall be valid.

All the property and effects of the institution shall be vested in the said trustees. They shall have power to direct the expenditure of the funds, the investment, safe keeping, and management thereof, and of the property and effects of the institution ; also, to make such ordinances and regulations, from time to time, as they may think proper, for the good order and convenience of those who may resort to the library or use the same ; also, to appoint, direct, control, and remove the superintendent of the library, and all librarians, and others employed about the institution ; and also, they shall have and use all powers and authority for promoting the expressed objects of this institution, not contrary to what is herein expressed. They shall not receive any compensation for their services, except that if any one of their number shall at any time be appointed superintendent, he may receive compensation as such.

The trustees shall be subject to the visitation of the proper courts of justice, for the purpose of preventing and redressing all mismanagement, waste, or breach of trust.

[By a subsequent codicil the testator authorized the trustees to select a site on the east side of Lafayette Place, to contain 65 feet front and rear, and 120 feet deep.]

I further direct, that a sum not exceeding seventy-five thousand dollars may be expended in the erection of the building for the library. One hundred and twenty thousand dollars may be expended in the purchase of books and other objects for the establishing of the library, and the residue

shall be invested as a fund for the maintaining and gradually increasing of the library.

All investments of the funds of the institution shall be made in the public debt of the United States of America, or of the states of the Union, or of the city of New York, as long as such subjects of investment may be had, giving a preference according to the order in which they are named. And in case the income of the fund shall at any time exceed the amounts which the trustees may find useful to expend for the purposes above named and particularized, they may expend such surplus in procuring public lectures to be delivered in connexion with the library, upon useful subjects of literature, philosophy, science, history, and the fine arts, or in promoting, in any other mode, the objects of the institution as above expressed. I direct my executors to cause and procure the necessary legal assurances to be made for establishing and securing the application of the funds and property hereby appropriated, for the purposes of these presents, and in the mode herein pointed out. And it is my request, that the trustees would apply to the legislature of this State, for such acts as may fully secure, establish, and perpetuate this institution, and render its management easy, convenient, and safe, both to themselves and the public. And as this property is devoted wholly to public purposes, I trust that the legislature will so far favor the institution as to exempt its property from taxation. And as a mark of my respect to the following gentlemen, I name them to be the first trustees, that is to say, the **Mayor of the City of New York**, and the **Chancellor of the State**, for the time being, in respect to their offices, **WASHINGTON IRVING**, **WILLIAM B. ASTOR**, **DANIEL LORD, Junior**, **JAMES G. KING**, **JOSEPH G. COGSWELL**, **FITZ GREENE HALLECK**, **HENRY BREVOORT, Junior**, **SAMUEL B. RUGGLES**, and **SAMUEL WARD, Junior**.

[By a further codicil the testator appointed Mr. CHARLES A. BRISTED one of the trustees—and also authorized the funds of the library to be invested in bonds, secured by mortgaged improved real estate.]

In witness whereof, I have set my hand and seal to this codicil, and publish the same as a codicil to my will, this twenty-second day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR. [L. S.]

AN ACT to Incorporate the Trustees of the Astor Library

Passed January 18, 1849.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. The Mayor of the City of New York for the time being, in respect to his office, and Washington Irving, William B. Astor, Daniel Lord, James G. King, Joseph G. Cogswell, Fitz-Greene Halleck, Samuel B. Ruggles, Samuel Ward, Charles A. Bristed, and their successors, are hereby created and declared to be a body corporate, by the name and style of "The Trustees of the Astor Library," by which name they and their successors may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, contract and be contracted with, and be known in all courts and places whatever, and may also have a common seal, and change and alter the same at pleasure.

§ 2. The direction and management of the affairs of the said corporation, and the control and disposal of its property and funds, shall be vested in the said Trustees, and their successors. The number of such Trustees shall be eleven: and they are hereby empowered—

1st. To receive from the executors of the will of John Jacob Astor as recorded with the codicils thereto annexed, in the office of the Surrogate of the City and County of New York, the sum of four hundred thousand dollars, by him therein bequeathed for the establishment of a public library in said city; including in said sum the price of the site selected for the said library, on the easterly side of La Fayette Place in said city, as author-

ized by the said testator; which site, with its appurtenances, the said corporation is hereby empowered to take and hold in fee simple for the purpose of the said library, and on condition to be applied and used therefor. 2d. To expend a portion of the said sum, not exceeding seventy-five thousand dollars, in erecting and maintaining upon the said site a building suitable for a public library. 3d. To expend a further amount, not exceeding one hundred and twenty thousand dollars, in the purchase of books, maps, charts, models, drawings, paintings, engravings, casts, statues, furniture, and other things appertaining to a library for general use. 4th. To invest the residue of said sum of four hundred thousand dollars as a fund for paying the value of the site of the building, and for maintaining and gradually increasing the said library, and to defray the necessary expenses of taking care of the same, and of the accommodation of persons consulting the library. And in case the income of the fund shall at any time exceed the amounts which the said trustees may find useful to expend for the purposes above named and particularized, then to expend such surplus in procuring public lectures to be delivered in connexion with the library, upon useful subjects of literature, philosophy, science, history, and the fine arts, or in promoting in any other mode the objects of the institution as above expressed. 5th. To direct the expenditure of the funds, and the investment, safe keeping, and management thereof, and of the property and effects of the said corporation: also to make such ordinances and regulations from time to time as the said Trustees may think proper for the good order and convenience of those who may resort to the library, or use the same; to make such by-laws as may be necessary and convenient in conducting the business of the said corporation; to appoint, direct, control, and at their pleasure remove a Superintendent of the library, and all librarians and other persons necessary to be employed about the same, and in general to have and use all powers and authority necessary for promoting the objects of the institution, as expressed in the said will and codicils of the said John Jacob Astor.

§ 3. The said library shall be accessible at all reasonable hours and times for general use, free of expense to persons resorting thereto, subject only to such control and regulations as the said trustees from time to time may exercise and establish for general convenience.

§ 4. All investments of the funds of the said corporation shall be made in bonds secured by mortgage of productive real estate, or in the public debt of the United States, or of the States of the Union, or of the City of New York, or portions thereof in any of those modes, except that in the investments in said public debts preference shall be given according to the order in which they are herein above named.

§ 5. The said Corporation shall be subject to the visitation of any courts of justice, which now are or hereafter may be thereto empowered for the purpose of preventing and redressing any mismanagement, waste, or breach of trust.

§ 6. The said Trustees shall elect one of their number to preside over their board, who shall hold such office during their pleasure; and they may also appoint, and at any time remove, a Secretary and any other officers which their business may require. The acts of a majority of the trustees at any meeting duly notified according to the by-laws, shall be valid. Any vacancies in the number of said trustees occurring by death, resignation, incapacity, or removal from this State, shall be filled by persons to be appointed by the remaining trustees, or a majority of them, except that the Mayor of the city of New York, during his continuance in office, shall always be a trustee. The trustees shall not receive any compensation for their services, except that if any one of their number shall at any time be superintendent, he may receive compensation as such.

§ 7. The said corporation may take and hold any additional donations, grants, devises, or bequests, which may be made in further support of

the said library, or the lectures, or literary and scientific objects connected therewith.

§ 8. The property, real and personal, of the said corporation, shall be exempt from taxation in the same manner as that of the other incorporated public libraries of this State: and it shall be the duty of the said trustees to effect such insurances as can be obtained upon said buildings and library, and other property, against loss by fire or otherwise, and pay the expenses thereof out of the fund described in the fourth subdivision of Section second of this act.

§ 9. The said trustees shall in the month of January, in every year, make a Report to the Legislature for the year ending on the thirty-first day of December preceding, of the condition of the said library, of the funds and other property of the corporation, and of its receipts and expenditures during such year.

§ 10. If any debts of the said corporation lawfully contracted, shall not be paid out of its funds, when due, the trustees shall be individually liable for such funds to the creditors, in such cases, and to such extent as they would be if not incorporated.

*State of New York, }
Secretary's Office. }*

I have compared the preceding with an original law deposited in this office, and do certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original.

[SEAL.] Given under my hand and the seal of this office, at the city of Albany, the twenty-second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

ARCHD. CAMPBELL,
Dep. Sec'y of State.

The Fine Arts.

THE DUSSELDORF PICTURES.

It is somewhat strange, that Düsseldorf, the capital of the inconsiderable Duchy of Berg, in the Rhineish provinces of Prussia—a town of little note, dignified by no historical associations, situated on the monotonous flats of the Rhine, far below the region of its grandeur and enchantment, with nothing to boast in the way of palaces, churches, theatres, or ruins, the great staples of Continental cities—should, nevertheless, be the seat of a School of Painting, perhaps the most conspicuous on the Continent, and which has aided in giving stability and strength to the most important movements in the history of Modern Art. It is true that a famous collection of pictures once adorned the walls of the Electoral palace; but the palace was destroyed in 1794 by the French, and the pictures were removed to Munich. It was long after their removal that the School began to flourish and become prominent. It seems to have found some congenial influences which are hidden from common observation, and make up for the apparent deficiencies of the place. Perhaps the artists who have congregated in so unromantic a locality have been urged to greater efforts after ideal beauty by the very presence of the natural barrenness which surrounds them.

Cornelius, to whom, we believe, belongs the honor of the foundation of the School of Düsseldorf, was a native of the town. Though little known in this country, his name stands at the head of the Modern German painters, especially of those who, in immediate connexion with him, broke through the conventional mannerisms by which the genius of artists was trammeled, and the spirit of Art degraded: and in opposition to Academies and Professors sought a freer field for the exercise of "the gift and faculty divine," of which they were the possessors. Of these men, Corne-

lius, Overbeck, and Schadow, were the most distinguished. They met at Rome, whither they had gone for a common purpose, that of seeking amongst the works of the greatest masters for the truest inspiration. They regarded themselves as the martyrs of the modern absurdities and insipidities which usurped the places and authority of art. Overbeck had, in fact, been expelled from the Academy of Vienna, for exercising that independence of thought which never fails to excite the horror of old "foundations." He had taken refuge from the Academicians amongst the grand memorials of the early painters of Italy. He found kindred spirits in his countrymen, banished, like himself, by the puerilities and pompous absurdities of the German Schools, and, like himself, in quest of a purer standard of taste, and a more congenial field of labor.

Under such circumstances, it was very natural that they should go from one extreme to the other; from the ultra-modern to the ultra-medieval; from the overloaded ornaments and artificial redundancies of painting which were nearest to them in point of time, to the simplicity and sincerity which were furthest off—even beyond the period of highest excellence, quite back in the infancy of the Revival of Art. Equally natural was it that they should have found in their new associations controlling motives of life, higher than the standards of artistic taste. The old masters led them to the old faith. They exchanged the cold formalities of German Lutheranism for the more vivid ritual of that Church, over whose altars, and in whose aisles, and sacristies, and cloisters they had studied the works of the masters of their adoption, and found in their pure and simple creations, not less the inspiration of genius than the fervor of unaffected faith. Cornelius was born a Roman Catholic. A large number of his fellow students in Rome, including Overbeck and Schadow, were converted to Romanism, and, as a matter of course, went far beyond him in devotion to their new faith. Their fanaticism, however, for with some it reached that point, gave new ardor to the zeal with which they devoted themselves to their art.

A school of painters formed under such influences, and animated by such inducements, could not have failed of success. Their extravagance was not of a kind to interfere with their progress, for it was the extravagance of simplicity, and adherence to the real forms of nature. It was the imitation of a former style, it is true, but that was better as a foundation than conformity to any modern standard.

The King of Bavaria, whose abdication and downfall ought to be lamented by all the painters and paint brushes in Christendom, visited Rome about 1820, during the residence there of these new enthusiasts of the old school. He adopted their notions of art, and what was more to the purpose, adopted a great number of the artists themselves, and proved a constant and munificent patron of their labors. To him, more than to any other man, Germany is indebted for the success of modern art. Munich is full of the pictures of Cornelius and his disciples, painted under the auspices and directions of Louis of Bavaria.

But to come back to Düsseldorf. Soon after the consummation of the new movements at Rome, and the accession of King Louis, Cornelius was established at Munich, and Schadow, his co-worker, was appointed Director of the Düsseldorf Academy, to which he immediately communicated the spirit and style which they had both adopted, and by means of

which a new impulse had been given to German Art.

It was thus that the Düsseldorf school derived the distinctive peculiarities which characterize its works of sacred art. Schadow, since he has been at its head, has devoted himself almost exclusively to the painting of purely religious pictures, and the best productions of the Academy have been of this description. The school, however, has been by no means confined in its labors or in its reputation to this department of art. Some of its most distinguished artists are painters of historical pictures, landscapes, and still life. Many of them are Protestants and ultra Protestants, the religious opinions of both sides of the school being sharpened by contact with each other. At the head of the latter class stands Lessing, who has acquired a great reputation from his pictures of the scenes and heroes of the Reformation, and who is looked up to as the head of the Protestant branch of the Academy.

The "Gallery of paintings by artists of the Düsseldorf Academy" recently opened in Broadway, and which has suggested the foregoing sketch, is only a partial representation of the spirit and style of the school. There are no specimens (would there were) of the works of the painters who have given it its character and prominence. The religious pictures of Cornelius, and Schadow, and Overbeck, and Deger, are too much prized at home to be easily purchased for transatlantic exhibition. To be seen and studied one must visit the churches and galleries of the old world. Nor are there in this collection any paintings by Lessing, or Sohn, or Bendemann, the artists who rank first amongst those who may be called the secular painters of the school. This we say, not to deprecate the collection, but to avoid giving the impression that it can be regarded as by any means a complete display of Düsseldorf art. Still it is a very choice exhibition, exceedingly à propos to the present increased interest in the arts which is perceptible with us, and, as far as it goes, a very satisfactory specimen of the school from which it emanates. It is strong in that pleasing description of cabinet pictures which many of the modern German artists delight in, and in which an artistic or romantic subject frequently helps out defects of style and manner which would be the ruin of larger compositions. It is strong, too, in landscapes by Achenbach and others of reputation in this difficult department, and fortunately it is not without one picture—The Adoration of the Magi—the first in the catalogue—which exhibits, in its pure and simple details, something of the mystical beauty and unearthly grace which fascinated the German pilgrims at Rome in the works of Fra Angelico and Perugino, and in which they recognised the highest type of Christian art.

There is a picture by Hildebrand, an artist of less merit, but more reputation than many others whose works are included in this collection, which we cannot help going a little out of our way to protest against. It covers more canvas than any other picture in the gallery, and with its flaunting colors quite throws into the shade the more modest compositions in its neighborhood. We mean the Othello and Desdemona, a picture which first shocked us in the artist's studio, at Düsseldorf, but from which we had hoped to have escaped for ever, when we crossed the threshold on our way out, little dreaming that in a short time it would be hanging (and that in duplicate) in a Broadway gallery. Perhaps it is a popular picture, and will be admired by

everybody else; and as a display of skill in the silk, satin, embroidery, and millinery line, in which Mr. Hildebrand excels, is doubtless very fine, but in every other respect it strikes us as the most objectionable feature of the collection, and so far as it has any Shakspearian association, a perfect monstrosity. Instead of the "gentle Desdemona," the German must have read the "genteel Desdemona," as his warrant for dressing up the lady in a style so entirely incompatible with any attention to those "house affairs," from which she used to steal to listen to Othello, who, black as he may have been, certainly in his darkest hour never looked like the Guinea coast negro who figures on the Hildebrand canvas, in an attitude which would have given the idea of a new "wheel about" to Jim Crow. But, taken as a whole, we have been especially struck with the good taste and refinement (for these are excellences of art as well as of manners) which prevail in the pictures of the Düsseldorf artists. Our own painters might gain many valuable hints from these works of their German brothers of the palette. There is a delicacy of finish, and an elaborateness of detail in execution, which not only aid in the production of fine effects, but show a sense of the responsibilities of the art, and the necessities of care, patience, and labor, for the accomplishment of real results on the part of the painter. And in most of the pictures there is a healthy, warm-hearted purity of feeling, which adds very much to their interest, and should add to their influence on the taste and appreciation of those who visit them.

What is Talked About.

*Mr. Hoffman—Death of Cooper the Actor
—Shakspeare's Birth-day in New York
—Charles Lanman—Maryland Historical Society—Mr. Macaulay at Glasgow
An Author on the Stage—A New Cyclopaedia—Johnston's Physical Atlas—
Education in England.*

The readers of the *Literary World* will hear with pleasure of the convalescence of CHARLES F. HOFFMAN after his recent illness. An authoritative statement in the *Tribune* intimates his early restoration to health, a result which will give his numerous personal friends and the still larger number of his countrymen, with whom his genius has brought him into communication, the most sincere gratification.

The distinguished American actor COOPER died on the 21st inst., at the residence of his son-in-law Mr. Robert Tyler, Bristol, Pennsylvania. The last occasion, we believe, of his appearance on the stage was some twelve years ago, at the Complimentary Benefit given to him at the Bowery, when he played Mark Antony. He had before that period abandoned the stage. His voice was broken, but there was the grace with a lingering echo of his old triumphs. As a boy, Cooper had been educated by the philosopher Godwin, a friend of his father, who taught him the ancient and modern languages. Dunlap gives a pleasing account of this period, and of his early trials of the stage. He was born in 1776, and his first appearance in America was at Philadelphia in *Macbeth*, the 9th December, 1796.

Shakspeare's birth-day, the 23d, was celebrated in New York by the imposing event of the sale of the theatrical wardrobe of John Povey, at the old Lutheran Church in William street, under the hammer of Bell, the

auctioneer, an event attendant, we understand, on the permanent retirement of that well known actor from the stage. He could not survive old Drury. On the evening of the same day John Keese brought to the hammer the dramatic library of the late Edward Simpson. It was miscellaneous and fragmentary, but had the odor of the old Park about it—with many of its stage crossings and interleavings. There were Cibber, Collier, old Jeremy whose "Immorality of the Stage" was printed "Immortality of the Stage," and the living Annalist J. P., the editor of Shakspere. There were farces and five act plays in thin dusty volumes, a liberal quantity about Shakspere, and many odds and ends apparently severed from the fate of their brethren consumed with the Park Theatre.

—CHARLES LANMAN, the author of several popular volumes of books of travels in this country, and Sketches of Art and Artists, and for some time employed upon the columns of the *National Intelligencer*, has, we understand, received the appointment of Librarian in the War Department.

—At the last monthly meeting of the Maryland Historical Society, April 5th, various donations of books and pamphlets were acknowledged, and several new members elected. In the report of the proceedings we notice the following mention of the valuable Government surveys. "We are under great obligations to the Hon. R. M. McLANE, for his unremitting attention to our wants. He has also done us the great favor of lodging the name of this society with the bureaus of the Coast Survey, of Indian Affairs, and of the Public Lands, for their reports and maps, so that for the future these important documents will be regularly transmitted to us. The maps and charts of the Coast Survey are of unrivalled superiority, as well in regard to their signal accuracy as in their great utility to the navigator. To the latter they offer the most perfect hydrographical charts, and to the whole community, equally perfect topographical maps of the adjoining region to some depth inward. This survey will prove a durable monument to American science, and is no less honorable to the forecast and liberality of the Government than to the high attainments of the energetic corps to which it is intrusted."

—Mr. MACAULAY has delivered two brilliant and effective speeches at Glasgow on occasion of his installation as Lord Rector of the University, and the tender of the freedom of the city. The University being in its 400th year gave the orator the opportunity of one of those rarely expressed historical retrospects in which he has no superior—as he grouped together the leading conditions of Europe at the close of each century. Pope Nicholas V., the founder of the University, and his part in the restoration of learning, the comparison of Bologna and Glasgow—the crop of learned reformers in another century—the age of the development of human rights and freedom, were the subjects of these sketches. A still more successful future was prophesied for the next hundred years. Mr. Macaulay is hopeful of the future. "Ever since I began," he says, "to make observations on the state of my country I have been seeing nothing but growth, and I have been hearing of nothing but decay. The more I contemplate our noble institutions, the more convinced I am that they are sound at heart, that they have nothing of age but its dignity, and that their strength is still the strength of youth." In Mr. M.'s second speech, he announced his in-

tention of retiring permanently from political life, to resume his history—"a task, under the magnitude and importance of which I have sometimes felt my mind ready to sink." He desired that it might be still in his power "so faithfully, without fear or malignity, to represent the merits and faults of hostile sects and factions, as to teach a common lesson of charity to all."

—Mr. LEWES, author of a "History of Philosophy," the novel of "Ranthurpe," "Rose, Blanche, and Violet," &c., has made a successful debut on the stage at Manchester, as Shylock, his performance of which character is highly spoken of for its intellectual power and discrimination. Mr. Lewes also brings out an original tragedy, written by himself, entitled "The Noble Heart." He sustains the principal character in it. Mr. Lewes was one of the company of amateurs with Dickens and Cruikshank. He has given an accurate picture of writing for the stage and its incidents, done, we may presume, from the life, in his novel of Ranthurpe.

—CHARLES KNIGHT has issued proposals for the immediate publication of a new popular Cyclopaedia, to be called the "Imperial," on the basis of the "Penny Cyclopaedia." The admirable preparation of the latter work is well known, and its array of many of the most distinguished names in modern English science, art, and literature among its contributors. It had the rare merit of a popular work with the general reader, and of an authority with the scholar. It was edited by George Long, who with Mr. Knight and a subdivision of labor in the hands of editors of departments, will conduct the new work. The size is to be of medium quarto, the work to be completed in twenty quarterly volumes, at a guinea each. The additions will be of great importance, their cost, in Literature and Engravings being estimated at £12,000, the cost of the original work for copyright and engravings alone having been £42,000. Among the new features of the "Imperial" will be a complete Atlas of Ancient and Modern Geography; a Series of Treatises on the great Branches of Knowledge, to form one introductory volume, and for the close, a Lexicon of the English Language, etymological, critical, and technical, the definitions of which will be illustrated by reference to every important fact, term, and name in the Cyclopaedia itself, whether scientific, literary, historical, or geographical. This enterprise is one of great importance, and affords a new proof, if proof were wanted, of the increasing energy and ability of the publisher-author. The work is to be published by subscription and not stereotyped.

—A new work of equal importance to Charles Knight's new Cyclopaedia is the quarto edition of A. Keith Johnston's "Physical Atlas of Natural Phenomena," reduced from the edition in imperial folio, at one fifth of the original cost. In this great work are mapped out the latest investigations in Geology, Hydrography, Meteorology, and Natural History, the last divided into Phytology, Zoology, and Ethnography. The execution of the work in the text and drawings is of the first order of scholarship and art. It is a gigantic monument of the genius of science of the present day. But few copies of this work have yet come to this country, which are in the hands of some of the institutions and a few wealthy men. It requires only to be seen to be generally introduced into all state, college, and other libraries, for the cost, some sixty dollars, we

believe free of duty, is incon siderable when compared with the large resources of the volume as a fountain of scientific information. The quarto edition is to be published monthly in twelve parts, which will be sold here at about a dollar each. Blackwood & Sons are the foreign publishers.

—*Jerrold's News*, noticing Horace Mann's last annual Report of the Board of Education of the State of Massachusetts, says, "though addressed to Americans the remarks seem as if they were spoken at Englishmen. The Americans are wiser than we are in this respect. They do not fear that popular education will breed discontent, or that religion will suffer from the increase of secular knowledge. They look upon an educated man as better and more valuable than an ignorant man—not merely in his moral and religious capacity, but in his capacity as a worker and wealth-producer. They know that the education of the people will not make the rich poor, but that it will make the poor richer." The apologetic tone in which this subject is treated by the English press speaks loudly of the fears in that country of popular insurrection.

NEWSPAPER READING.

The *Newark Daily Advertiser* prints a very sensible Essay from a Correspondent on this much practised but little understood business.

Speaking of the power of the press, it would be considerably greater if there were not so much of it. A neighbor of mine, at my late residence in the backwoods of Pennsylvania, had seen but one paper (i. e. one No.) for six months; but that he had carefully read; and had made up his mind to vote for Gen. Taylor. Such was the effect of one paper; but had he read more, it is quite likely he might have been left in doubt; as the most are, in respect to the principal topics of news-paper discussion.

There are, in fact, two difficulties in the case—the one, that almost everything published is made the occasion of controversy, and so much said for and against it, that readers in general know not what to believe; the other, that periodicals are of such infinite platitude, that thoughtful men do not read them at all. Take one of the large city newspapers, a weekly, or semi-weekly—who that has anything to do in the world ever thinks of reading it? And if any one is so unwise, what does he get for his pains? *A confused mind, and a weakened memory.* Two very serious losses, for a very small gain.

This matter of weakening the memory I suppose to be a very grave one—a chief mischief occasioned by the floods of reading supplied by the daily, weekly, and monthly press. You have seen Averrhoë's catalogue of the weakeners of the memory? Coleridge proposes to add light reading: I add, *all* reading where the extent is wholly incomensurate with the substantial facts and truths set before the mind and distinctly contemplated; and such is a large portion of all that the periodical press now supplies.

For myself, a large paper is a huge annoyance; and never do I witness the enlargement of a daily or weekly sheet, without the painful sensation of a mariner that has had one more of his anchors dragged from its place—I have so much less hope that wisdom is still to be allowed some place amongst men.

Gold beating, I grant you, is good, but not for all purposes. Put my half and quarter eagles in the form of gold leaf, and I should

be ill-equippt for travelling, or remitting funds to London. I want the gold in a substantial form, so that I can handle it without fearing that a touch or breath of air will dissipate the whole from my fingers.

So it is with the better than California gold formations of the mind. They must have a limited, compact, stamped form—they must be capable of a place in the pocket, and hand, or even in the heart, where some (by a great mistake) put their gold. They must have a certain palpability to the meditative power; or they avail very little in the great transactions of human life—that real life, which here and there one deems better than any given by gold and silver alone.

Were the periodical press not so much given to the use of the yard stick in making sales, these wares would be worth much more—adding to the stock of human well-being. We should see them potent elements of the powers that be—capable of stirring up and laying such tempests as are wanted and not wanted among men.

So I exhort the Daily, be quiet, never get enlarged, never print much (i. e. in space), and abide an example of real efficiency in this little world of ours, as long as there is news to be told, or no phantom of news to be kept back in the shades where it belongs.

Vale, vale, C. S. A.

SUMMER LONGINGS.

*Las mananas floridas
De Abril y Mayo.*

CALDERON.

Ah! my heart is weary waiting,
Waiting for the May—
Waiting for the pleasant rambles,
Where the fragrant hawthorn brambles,
With the woodbine alternating,
Scent the dewy way.
Ah! my heart is weary waiting,
Waiting for the May.
Ah! my heart is sick with longing,
Longing for the May—
Longing to escape from study,
To the young face fair and ruddy,
And the thousand charms belonging
To the summer's day.
Ah! my heart is sick with longing,
Longing for the May.
Ah! my heart is sore with sighing,
Sighing for the May—
Sighing for their sure returning,
When the summer beams are burning.
Hopes and flowers that dead or dying
All the winter lay.
Ah! my heart is sore with sighing,
Sighing for the May.
Ah! my heart is pained with throbbing,
Throbbing for the May—
Throbbing for the seaside billows,
Or the water-woeling willows;
Where in laughing and in sobbing
Glide the streams away.
Ah! my heart, my heart is throbbing,
Throbbing for the May.
Waiting sad, dejected, weary,
Waiting for the May.
Spring goes by with wasted warnings—
Moonlight evenings, sunbright mornings—
Summer comes, yet dark and dreary
Life still ebbs away—
Man is ever weary, weary,
Waiting for the May.

Dublin University Magazine.

MICHELET AND M. DE CUSTINE.—Michelet, the historian, the priest condemner, the church antagonist, gives his hand (*at the altar*, for the bride so wills it) to Mdlle. Mailerat, a fair young creature, born and bred at the court of Vienna. The worthy professor, although somewhat in the sere and yellow leaf, has succeeded in captivating the affections of a young lady of great beauty and some fortune, and just nineteen years of age. M. de Custine, the author of several works of great power and merit, the leader of fashions for several years past, in Paris, is about to be united to the Countess Merlin. The recent publication of M. de Custine, *Roumald ou la Vacancie*—a novel of an entirely religious character, and written with a view to extol the benefits of a monastic life—the

subsequent journey of the author to Rome—all led us to believe that he was on the point of giving up the world and of retiring to a monastery; but it appears that his religious vocation was not strong enough, or the fascinations of the Countess Merlin were too strong, for we have him again among us, and the world is anticipating much future gaiety and amusement at his hotel, after his union with the Countess Merlin.—*Paris Correspondent of the Atlas.*

Publishers' Circular.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

"OTIA AEGYPTIACA.—DISCOURSES ON EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGY AND HIEROGLYPHICAL DISCOVERIES. GEORGE R. GLIDDON.

"Qui si quel che si sa;
E si sa quel che si fa."

Such is the title-page of a small work just announced by Madden, the Oriental Publisher, in London. The American publishers are Messrs. Bartlett & Welford, New York, and John Pennington, Philadelphia. The work itself will probably arrive by the next steamer. At present we can only express our gratification that we are to have something embracing the leading features of Egyptian Science, from a man who has done more than any one else to popularize this branch of Archaeology, and of whom the illustrious LEPRIUS said, "no man living is so thoroughly versed in the results of Egyptian Archaeological Research." We learn, what may be of some interest to our readers, that but a very limited edition of this work has been published.

MESSRS. HARPER have in press, for immediate publication, a literal prose translation of Dante's Inferno by Dr. John A. Carlyle, the brother of the historian and Essayist. This work is highly spoken of in the English journals. *Jerrold's News* says of it—"In this work we have the soul of the doer; it is a real work, a genuine labor: the text is what it really professes to be, a literal prose translation, with notes explanatory, both for their brevity and their cogency."

The 4th Volume of Mr. BANCROFT's History of the United States will, it is said, be published in September.

The following is the London announcement of Dickens's new serial—"The Copperfield Survey of the World as it Rolled. On the first of May will be published the first number, price one shilling, of the Personal History, Adventures, Experience, and Observation of David Copperfield the Younger, of Blunderstone Rookery (which he never meant to be published on any account): by Charles Dickens."

"The Truth-Seeker in Literature, Philosophy, and Religion," is the title of a Quarterly Review in London, which has reached its third number. In the contents of the latter are "Literary Portraits of Emerson and George Dawson, Sutton's Poems," &c. "The pervading spirit of this work," says an English journal, "is akin to that of Thomas Carlyle and the American Emerson. It protests against all sham and cant—prejudice and selfishness—mammonism—sectarianism—conventionalism."

The *Eclectic Review* for April contains Dick's Nature and Office of the State; Reade's Revelations of Life; Fergusson on True Principles of Art; American Scenes, and Christian Slavery; the French Revolutionary Press of 1848; California, its History and Resources; Celts, Britons, and Anglo-Saxons; the Pulpit and the People; Milton's Prose Works, &c., &c.

The new number of the *Quarterly* will contain a Review of Macaulay's History.

Bent's Literary Advertiser has this mention of "David Rizzio; a Posthumous Work of the late Mr. Ireland," edited by the novelist James, announced for immediate publication.—"Few literary transactions caused greater excitement than Mr. Ireland with his Shakespeare Forgeries; they deceived the leading literary men of the day, amongst whom were Dr. Parr, Sheridan, John Kemble, &c. A posthumous work by that cele-

brated writer has for some time been in the hands of G. P. R. James, Esq., under whose editorship it will be sent forth to the world. It is intended to be a most graphic history of David Rizzio, the unfortunate musician and secretary, and his more unfortunate mistress, Mary Queen of Scots; the history and characters of all the eminent personages and events of the courts of England, France, Germany, Rome, &c., between the years 1506 and 1567."

The oriental novelist, Mr. James Morier, says the *London Athenaeum* of April 7, died within the last fortnight at Brighton. It will be long, we fear, ere we have anything so racy, so natural, at once so oriental and sympathetic with our tastes, as his "Hajji Baba," "Zohrab," and "Ayesha."

Lamartine is, it is said, about to publish monthly a species of political review, which he is to call "The People's Adviser."

It is proposed to erect, by subscription, a monument, with bas-relief and bust, to the memory of the poet Cowper, in Westminster Abbey.

ANTIQUITY OF ANESTHETIC AGENTS IN CHINA.

—M. Stanislas Julien has addressed to the Academy of Sciences a note in reference to a substance employed in China more than a thousand years ago, about the third century of the Christian era, for the purpose of producing a temporary loss of sensibility. These curious facts have been taken from the great Chinese work, entitled, "Kon-Kin-I-Tong;" or, "A Compilation of Ancient and Modern Medicine," published at the commencement of the sixteenth century. It is there said:—"When Moa-Tho knew that it was necessary to employ acupuncturation, he used the remedy in two or three places, the moxa being applied at the same time, as it was indicated by the nature of the affection which he had to treat. But if the complaint is situated in parts upon which the needle, the moxa, or liquid medicaments cannot produce any action, for instance, in the bone, stomach, or intestines, there may be given to the patient a preparation of hemp (ma-yo), and in a short time he becomes so insensible, that he seems intoxicated or deprived of life. Then, according as the case may be, the operations are performed, of amputation, &c., and the cause of the malady is removed. Subsequently, the tissues are brought together by sutures, and liniments are applied. After some days, the patient is restored to health, without having felt, during the operation, the least pain." Well may we say with truth, "There is nothing new under the sun."

EDWIN AND EMMA.—Mallet's *Eduin and Emma* was, it is well known, founded on an actual lover's tragedy, which took place at Bowes, Yorkshire, in the parish register of which the following is an entry:—"Roger Wrightson, jun., and Martha Railton, both of Bowes, buried in one grave. He died of fever; and, upon tolling his passing bell, she cried out, 'My heart is broken,' and in a few hours expired through love. March 15th, 1714-5. Aged both twenty years." F. T. Dimsdale, LL.D., who is editing a new edition of Mallet's ballad, has erected a monument in Bowes churchyard to the memory of the two lovers, the anniversary of whose burial fell on Thursday.

WEBSTER'S QUARTO DICTIONARY FOR THE SCHOOL ROOM.—At a meeting of the Board of Public Instruction of St. Louis, March 13, 1849:

"Resolved, That a copy of Webster's Unabridged Quarto Dictionary be placed upon the desk of each teacher in the Grammar department of the St. Louis Public Schools, as a book of reference for teachers and pupils."

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Superintendent of Public Instruction in Iowa."

"The town of North Brookfield, noted for thrif and public spirit, have voted to place a copy in the school-house of each of their nine districts."

—*Springfield Republican.*

[April 28.]

LIST OF BOOKS PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES FROM APRIL 14TH TO 28TH.

- Agnes Morris. 16mo. pp. 143 (Harper & Brothers).
 Bowdoin Poets (*The*).—Edited by E. P. Weston. 2d edit. 12mo. pp. 150 (Brunswick: J. Griffin).
 Broderip (W. J.)—Zoological Recreations. 8vo. pp. 376. (Phila.: Lea & Blanchard).
 Clark (U.)—Lectures on City Life and Character, with a Review of Rev. D. C. Eddy's Lectures to Young Ladies. 8vo. pp. 64 (Lowell: Merrill & Hayward).
 Cumming (Rev. J.)—Is Christianity from God? with an Introduction by Hon. T. Frelinghuysen. 16mo. pp. 276 (M. W. Dodd).
 Field (Rev. H. M.)—The Good and the Bad in the Roman Catholic Church. A Letter from Rome. 12mo. pp. 34 (G. P. Putnam).
 Foster (J.)—Essays in a Series of Letters. 1st American ed. 18mo. pp. 335 (R. Carter & Brothers).
 Franklin (B.)—Illustrated. Pt. 8 and last. 8vo. (Harpers).
 Fruits of the Mayflower; or, Conversations respecting the Pilgrim Fathers. 18mo. pp. 108 (M. W. Dodd).
 Graham (Miss M. J.)—Life and Works of, by Rev. C. Bridges, M.A. 8vo. pp. 329 (R. Carter & Brothers).
 Houghton (G. F.)—An Address before the Legislature of the State of Vermont, Oct. 29, 1848. Pub. by order of the Legislature. 8vo. pp. 54.
 Howes (J. W. S.)—The Shakspearian Reader; with Introductory and Explanatory Notes, and Memoir. 12mo. pp. 447 (D. Appleton & Co.).
 Irving (W.)—A Book of the Hudson. Collected from the various Works of Diedrich Knickerbocker. Edited by Geoffrey Crayon. 18mo. pp. 216 (G. P. Putnam).
 —Works. Vol. VIII.—Astoria. 16mo. pp. 519 (G. P. Putnam).
 James (J. A.)—An Earnest Ministry the Want of the Times. With an Introduction, by Rev. J. B. Condit, D.D. 2d ed. 12mo. pp. 288 (M. W. Dodd).
 Jaques (G.)—A Practical Treatise on the Management of Fruit Trees: adapted to the Interior of New England. 18mo. pp. 256 (Worcester: E. N. Tucker).
 Kip (W. J.)—A Few Days at Nashotah. 8vo. pp. 32 (Albany).
 Lamartine (A. de.)—Confidential Disclosures; or, Memoirs of My Youth. Translated by Eugene Plunkett. 12mo. pp. 291.
 —Memoirs of My Youth. 8vo. pp. 110 (Harper & Bros.).
 Louis Deo: a Plain Service for the Easter and Trinity Seasons. No. 1. Published under the Sanction of the Maryland Society for the Improvement of Church Architecture and Music. Oblong, pp. 16 (D. Appleton & Co.).
 Layard (A. H.)—Nineveh and its Remains. Illust. Vol. 2. pp. 373 (G. P. Putnam).
 Macaulay (T. B.)—History of England from the Accession of James II. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 448, 448 (Philadelphia: E. H. Butler & Co.).
 Magoon (E. L.)—Living Orators in America. 12mo. pp. 462 (Baker & Scribner).
 —Republican Christianity. 12mo. pp. 422 (Boston: Gould, Kendall & Lincoln).
 Mason (John M. DD.)—Complete Works, edited by his son, Ebenezer Mason. 4 vols. 8vo. pp. 2,327 (Baker & Scribner).
 Mohr (F.) and Redwood (T.)—Practical Pharmacy. Edited, with extensive additions, by W. Procter, Jr. Illustrated, 8vo. pp. 576 (Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard).
 Parsons (S. B.)—The Rose: its History, Poetry, Culture, and Classification. 8vo. pp. 316 (John Wiley).
 Peters (A., DD.)—Sprinkling, the only mode of Baptism made known in the Scriptures and the Scripture Warrant for Infant Baptism. 18mo. pp. 184 (M. W. Dodd).
 Reillat (L.)—1812; or, Napoleon's Invasion of Russia. 8vo. pp. 318 (Stringer & Townsend).
 Sigourney (Mrs. L. H.)—Water Drops. 18mo. pp. 275 (R. Carter & Bros.).
 Turnbull (R.)—Review of Dr. Bushnell's Theories of the Incarnation and Atonement. (A Supplement to Theophany.) 12mo. pp. 78 (Hartford: Brockett, Fuller & Co.).
 Tyng (S. H., DD.)—The Israel of God—4th Thousand, enlarged. 8vo. pp. 387 (R. Carter & Bros.).
 Willis (N. Parker).—Rural Letters and other Records of Thought at Leisure, written in the intervals of more hurried literary labor. 16mo. pp. 380 (Baker & Scribner.).

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Distribution of the Engravings, and the Annual Report of the Year 1848.

The Engraving of "Queen Mary Signing the Death Warrant of Lady Jane Grey," upon steel, and measuring 23 inches by 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, was finished early in the year, and has been in the hands of the printer ever since its completion. Prints are being taken from it at the rate of fifty per day, and the distribution of them will commence about the first day of May next.

An effort will be made to deliver them as nearly as possible in the order of the receipt of subscriptions. Those Honorary Secretaries, therefore, who transmitted the earliest remittances may expect to be first supplied. The Outline Illustrations of Rip Van Winkle will be ready for delivery at the same time with the "Queen Mary."

The "Transactions" will be published and distributed at the same time with the engravings.

The Engraving for the Year 1849.

The plate of "Youth," being the second picture of Mr. Cole's celebrated series of the "Voyage of Life," is in progress under the skilful burin of Mr. JAMES SMILIE, who will undoubtedly make it the best large landscape engraving ever executed in this country. A small etching of this picture will accompany the volume of "Transactions," about to be published.

The Medal for the Year 1849.

The subject of this medal is the head of Colonel Trumbull, in continuation of the series of distinguished American Artists, commenced by the representations of Allston and Stuart.

Bronze Statuettes.

A Committee was appointed some time since by the General Board, to inquire into the expediency of procuring statuettes in bronze for distribution at the next annual meeting. The London Art-Union for several years has expended most judiciously a portion of its funds in encouraging this branch of Art. There has always been a difficulty in this country in obtaining proper workmen, which is the principal reason why reduced copies in bronze have not already been made of several exquisite statues, modelled by our own artists, and which seemed peculiarly adapted to this mode of treatment. This obstacle has now been removed, and there are here at present several persons lately arrived from Europe, who are fully competent to undertake this kind of work. Indeed, the small bust of Indian, beautifully modelled by BROWN, has been reproduced in bronze by one of these artists in a very satisfactory manner. A resolution has accordingly been passed, in accordance with the recommendation of the Special Committee of inquiry, that Mr. BROWN be commissioned to model a statuette in bronze, twenty inches in height, illustrative of Indian form and character, and that twenty copies in bronze be cast for distribution among the members of the year 1849.

Etchings in Outline for the year 1849.

A set of Outlines, similar to the illustrations of Rip Van Winkle, will undoubtedly be published for the members of the present year. The Special Committee upon Engravings have the subject under consideration, but have as yet made no Report upon it to the General Board. Due notice shall be given as soon as that body pass a decisive resolution in relation to it.

The List of Paintings already purchased for Distribution

INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING.

To which Additions are now being made every week.

"The Venetian Bride," by LOUIS LANG; "Swiss Scenery," by D. HUNTINGTON; "Jephthah's Daughter," by W. C. SANDERS; "Coast Scene, near Newport R. I.," by D. HUNTINGTON; "Leisure Hours," by ALLEN SMITH, JR.; "The Shepherd Boy," by FD. RAAB; "A Peep at the Catskill Mountain House;" "Susquehanna Scenery from Recollection," by T. DOUGHTY; "Cattle," by T. H. HINCKLEY; "View in Berkshire Co., Mass. Clearing off after a September Storm," by GEO. INNESS; "View on the French Broad River," by T. A. RICHARDS; "View in Pittsford, Vt.," by F. E. CHURCH; "View of Great Barrington, Berkshire Co., Mass.—Mount Washington in the Distance—by Evening Sunlight," by A. H. WENZLER; "Looking Seaward," by H. G. HALL; "Othello relating the Story of his Life;" "Expectation," by G. A. BAKER; "Gill Bias and the Archbishop," by F. W. EDMONDS; "Scene on the Juniper," by T. W. WHITRIDGE; "Group of Peasant Children," by R. ZAHNER; "The Intercepted Letter," by J. B. FLAGG; "Fruit Piece," by S. ROESEN; "Diamond Cove at Sunset, Portland, Me.," by CHAS. E. BECKETT; "The Sailor Boy;" "Pearlrich's Laura," by S. S. OSGOOD; "Duck Shooters," by W. RANNEY; "Landscape Composition," by T. BURFORD; "Winter on the Passaic;" "Early Autumn—Study from Nature," by D. W. C. BOUTELLE; "Middlefield Falls, Ct.," "Recollections of Kaaterskill Clove," by R. W. HUBBARD; "Jack the Giant Killer," by ALEX. RUTHERFORD; "View near Rockland Landing," by JAMES H. CAFFERTY; "Now or Never," by T. H. MATTESON; "Above the Clouds at Sunrise," by F. E. CHURCH; "The Apple of Discord," by H. P. GRAY; "The Wages of War," by H. P. GRAY; "American Winter Scene," by REGIS GIGNOUX; "The Catskill Mountains, from below Hudson," by R. G. L. LEDNORI; "Landscape—Pie-Nie Party;" "Roman Ruins, with figures," by B. M. MCCONKEY; "Roman Girl Bathing," by L. TERRY; "Luther's Vow;" "The Last Moments of Luther;" "Buyan's Vision of the Cross," by EDWIN WHITE; "Schroon Lake;" "Solitude," by S. R. GIFFORD; "Landscape, with Cattle," by T. H. HINCKLEY; "Coast Scenery—Fishing Boats, etc.," by JAS. HAMILTON; "The Woods of Graeffenberg," by J. F. RUNGE; "Distant View of Albany," by WM. HART; "Scene on the Helderberg Mountain," by WILLIAM HART; "Burnt Out," by CHAS. F. BLAUVELT; "View on the Valley of the Little Beaver," by JNO. L. MARTIN; "Italian Flower Girl," by HERMINE BORCHARD; "Flower Piece," by S. ROESEN; "View in Holland," by J. M. CULVERHOUSE; "German Children," by ZAHNER; "View in Monmouth County, N. J.," by T. W. WHITLEY; "Marine View," by THO. BIRCH; "Sioux in Council," by SETH EASTMAN; "View of Lake Henderson," by CHARLES BAKER; "Distant view of Mansfield Mountain," by JNO. F. KENSETT; "The White Mountains, N. H.," by WM. G. BOARDMAN; "Italian Peasant Child," by J. K. FISHER; "Portrait of the Absent Lover," by R. KOHLER; "My Cottage on the Creek;" "Woodland Home," by JOHN J. PORTER; "The Abandoned Ship;" "Beating down Channel," by G. R. BONFIELD; "Indian Chief," by S. EASTMAN.